

5-8-1999

# The Hilltop 5-8-1999

Hilltop Staff

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# THE HILLTOP

The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924



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## Kofi Annan to Speak at Graduation Ceremony



Secretary General Kofi Annan will give today's 131st commencement address

By VALERIE THOMAS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan is slated to be the keynote speaker at today's 131st Commencement Convocation. Annan will address approximately 2,300 Howard University graduates at the convocation, which is scheduled to start at 10 a.m. on the main yard weather permitting.

"Secretary-General Annan brings to Howard University a global perspective, based not only on personal convictions, but also on his extensive career of service, education and high-level conflict resolution in and throughout the international community," said Howard University President H. Patrick Swygert.

Many Howard University graduates were excited after receiving news that Annan would be speaking during today's ceremony. "It's a great honor to have someone who is so experienced with world affairs to come to Howard University and speak with our graduates," said chemical engineering major and graduating senior Raymond Brickhouse. "It shows the type of person that he is and also shows the type of university that we are a part of."

Freshman English and political science major Brittney Cooper said, "I think his visit reflects our commitment to drawing ideas from America and the global community, and also reflects our commitment to maintaining diversity throughout the Black race."

Annan, who was unavailable for comment at press-time, spoke last Saturday at the University of Michigan's commencement ceremony. He told the crowd of approximately 35,000 people that he had intensified his own efforts to find a political solution to the situation in Kosovo. Annan, who is originally from Ghana, told the graduates that the fight for human rights continues with them. While he spoke, two planes circled above carrying banners that protested NATO's attack on Yugoslavia.

Annan's United Nations career, which has spanned for more than three decades, has focused not only on questions of management—administration, budget, finance, and personnel—but also on refugee issues and peacekeeping, as well as sensitive diplomatic issues.

In the early 1990s, he negotiated the release of Western hostages during Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Most recently, he made world news by negotiating the delivery of two Libyan suspects for a trial on the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Annan will receive an honorary doctorate of humane letters today. Also receiving honorary degrees during Commencement will be James L. Farmer, James A. Johnson, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, and Kwame Ture (posthumously).

## Saying Hello to the Future



They come from Africa, the Caribbean, the Far East, Central America and the United States. Their faces are the faces of the world. Who are they? They are the last graduating class of the millennium. And they represent a continuing trend in Howard graduates with the majority of students receiving degrees in Biology, psychology and journalism respectively. According to figures released from enrollment management 73 countries are represented in this graduating class and females outnumber males two to one.

—COMPILED BY CHIMEKA THOMAS

## Farmer, Ture to be Honored

Student Trustees Sponsor Fundraising Efforts for Kwame Ture Research Library

By APRILL O. TURNER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Civil rights activists and Howard alumni Kwame Ture and James Farmer will receive honorary doctoral degrees today at Commencement. Later this evening, a ceremony will be held honoring Mable Charles, Ture's mother, and funds will be raised for the Kwame Ture Research Library.

Student Trustees Jonathan Hutto and Randy Short, who recommended that Howard honor the activists, are hosting the community gathering honoring Ture's mother. Community activists Rock Newman, Lawrence Guyot, and The All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party are also sponsoring the event.

Hutto says Howard is continuing a tradition by honoring Ture and Farmer.

"The awarding of the honorary degrees to Kwame Ture



Kwame Ture, formerly Stokely Carmichael, will be presented with an honorary doctorate.



James Farmer, founder of the Congress of Racial Equality, will also be honored with a degree.

and James Farmer reaffirms the activist and struggle tradition of Howard University," said Hutto. "I hope and pray that the awarding of these degrees will motivate students to struggle and fight for the upliftment and liberation of African and oppressed people all over the world."

Graduate Trustee Randy Short is happy about the honoring of

Farmer and Ture and hopes that Howard will recognize more of its greats by the year 2000.

"These conferring of degrees are but a drop in the bucket of good will and affirmation of the African American struggle for liberation," said Short. "Pauli Murray, Charles Cobb, Jr., Cleavland Sellers, George Padmore, and many others

See HONOREES, A5

## HUH Employees Disgruntled Over Proposed Salary Freeze

By JASON T. SMITH  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A strike by the University's largest workers union may be imminent if negotiations between the University and Local Union 2094 continue to stall.

Protests by the union that protects the rights of hospital and health care workers at Howard University Hospital have been mounting because the University is "refusing to come to the table" to discuss a proposal to freeze the wages of some 1,000 employees of HUH, according to union officials.

Union officials say that a growing number of dissatisfied employees are calling for a strike. And when a statement was released last week by the University saying that Howard "is not able to agree to a wage increase," support for a strike increased.

A union deadline for the negotiations hasn't been set yet, "but a deadline is being discussed," said one union official.

Calling the situation "very sensitive," chief negotiator for the University Leroy Jenkins forwarded all inquiries about the case to University spokesperson Donna L. Brock.

At the heart of the matter is a

salary hike for upper and mid-level management who took a four year retroactive four percent cost of living increase that amounted to an additional \$20,000 a year to their checks. Derrick Davis, chief negotiator for Local 2094, said the last cost of living increase for the members of Local 2094 was in 1993.

But according to Brock, members of Union 2094 "enjoy the highest wages in comparable jobs in the Washington Metropolitan area, and despite a long term management salary freeze, have received merit increases over the last seven years. The hospital continues to be

See HUH, A5

## Rev. Jackson Brokers Deal with Yugoslav Leader

By Rafiah Davis  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Rev. Jesse Jackson successfully negotiated the release of three U.S. soldiers who were being held hostage in Yugoslavia last week.

The three soldiers, Steven M. Gonzales, 22, of Huntsville, Texas; Andrew A. Ramirez, 24, of Los Angeles; and Christopher J. Stone, 25, of Smiths Creek, Michigan—had been in the custody of the Yugoslavian government for a little over a month.

Jackson went there on Friday, against the warnings of the United States officials. He was told that his safety could not be guaranteed and that there was a chance he could get caught in a NATO air strike. In two days, Jackson was taking the soldiers away from Yugoslavia.

Some say that the release of the hostages makes Yugoslavian Slobodan Milosevic look like a humanitarian. "I'm sure Yugoslavia is count-

ing on this to increase their otherwise bankrupt moral credibility," said Lorenzo Morris to the Philadelphia Inquirer. Morris is a Howard University professor of political science who wrote a book on Jackson's 1984 presidential campaign. "They have to assume that it is going to have some consequences in international relations."

He added in a phone conversation with *The Hilltop* that any assumptions made by Milosevic should not take away from Jackson's praises. "All of the advantages for Milosevic are far outweighed by the humanistic action of Jesse Jackson."

This was not the first time that Jackson negotiated the release of hostages. In 1984, he secured the release of Navy Lt. Robert Goodman, who was shot down over Lebanon. That same year, he negotiated the freedom of dozens of prisoners from Fidel Castro's jails in Cuba. In 1990, Jackson worked to rescue Americans from the Persian Gulf after Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Morris said that Jackson is able to be successful in his diplomatic efforts because of the contacts that he has established within congress and the global, religious community. "Once you establish a reputation with dealing with human issues in the context of citizen diplomacy, people will find you when an opportunity arises to cross boundaries of communication on international levels," said Morris.

More recently, Jackson has worked as Clinton's special envoy for democracy in Africa and he has taken on a high profile in counselling the Clinton family after the Monica Lewinsky sex scandal.

Jackson is the founder of the "Rainbow Coalition," a non-profit self-help group for blacks, liberals, poor whites and Hispanics.

After saving the soldiers, Jackson prayed for peace and demanded that Clinton stop the bombing and resume peace talks with Milosevic.



File Photo  
In a recent trip to Yugoslavia, Rev. Jesse Jackson was able to negotiate the release of three Prisoners of War.

## INSIDE



Marilyn Hoosen and Q. Terah Jackson make plans for their transition into their new HUSA posts.

See A2

Former Howard baseball player Trey Wheat sets his sights on the major league.

See B11



## Weekend Weather

TODAY: Periods of clouds and sunshine

80 HIGH, 60 LOW

SUNDAY: Rain

77 HIGH, 58 LOW



## CAMPUS

### Howard University Student Association Struggles to Staff Office Before Summer General Assembly Questions Staff Appointment



File Photo  
Marilyn Hoosen and Q. Terah Jackson of Unity 2000

By Rafiah Davis  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University Student Association President Marilyn Hoosen and Vice President Terah Q. Jackson are preparing for a long, busy summer. Amid controversy, the two hope to use the three months to get started fulfilling promises made to the student body in their platform.

The two newly elected student leaders are already under the gun. They met suspicion head-on at a recent General Assembly meeting, where they came under scrutiny for their staff choices.

In keeping with the by-laws of the HUSA constitution, the General Assembly gets to approve by a vote the appointments made by the president and vice president of HUSA.

Much to the chagrin of Hoosen and Jackson, their choices for financial advisor and for chief of staff were overridden by the vote of the General Assembly.

"Marilyn was trying to get everyone who worked on her campaign on her staff, however, that was not the General Assembly's objec-

tive," said Howard Brown, a junior filmmaking major who is the representative for the School of Communications. He said that the General Assembly's main goal was to make sure the appointees were qualified and that they had the student body's best interests at heart.

Jackson said that he understands the reasons behind the actions of the General Assembly. "Any overtones of hostility at the meeting were probably a result of the tradition of adversity between HUSA and the General Assembly," said Jackson. "This is one tradition that we do not seek to continue."

However, Jackson admitted that much of the controversy is due to HUSA executives' unwillingness to accept the vote.

"Part of the confusion surrounding the General Assembly meeting has been created by us," said Jackson. "This is due to our desire to adhere to the constitution, but still have a budget so we can serve the student body this summer."

Hoosen is currently trying to render the meeting unconstitutional, which will allow her to keep her appointed staff. If it is decided that the meeting went against the HUSA constitution,

Unity 2000 will not have an approved budget. They will have to borrow money from Student Affairs.

Brown said that he recommends that Hoosen and Jackson accept the decision of the General Assembly. "A disrespect of procedure and the General Assembly is a disrespect of the student body," he said.

The meeting lasted for about four hours, according to Brown. When it was over, only four of the eleven staff directors that Jackson and Hoosen were intending to have working this summer had been approved by the General Assembly, said Jackson.

"The summer is when the majority of the work is accomplished," stated Jackson. He said that after the summer, HUSA will be able to gauge how successful their office will be.

Jackson hopes to lay down the framework for the credit union that his office is planning to start. Also, speakers will be lined up for the speaker series in the cafeteria, and they will begin setting up the International Historically Black College Conference.

Hoosen was unavailable for comment.

### For Trustees Summer Means Work, Work, Work

By JASON T. SMITH  
Hilltop Staff Writer



Louis Sterling

Finance major Louis Sterling has made a habit of being ahead of the game. To win the highly competitive Truman scholarship, Sterling started researching months before the applications went out.

This summer, in true Sterling style, he will be brushing up on his boardroom etiquette to prepare for his September debut as the undergraduate representative to the University's Board of Trustees.

For Sterling and Che' Sayles, the board's graduate representative-elect, the summer of '99 will be hot and busy. During the summer months, they will be contacting and meeting with previous board of



Che Sayles

trustee student representatives to get a crash course in how to maneuver proposals and ideas through the University's controlling and governing entity.

For Sterling, that means networking with past student trustees over the Internet and the phone while holding down an internship at Goldman-Sachs, a New York-based investment banking firm.

"I'll also be reading a lot about the position. I want to be well versed so that when September rolls around I'll be on top of everything," said the School of Business junior.

Sayles predicts this summer will "be both challenging and invigorating."

For starters, Sayles is working on a National Student Social Engineering Conference slated to kick off this summer, pending approval from the University. The national conference will "call for a meeting next February of every Historically Black College and University student government to discuss effective ways to improve HBCU student life and academics," said the law school student. "I also plan to spend this summer critically reviewing the proposed Student Code of Conduct and its positive and negative effects on student life and academics."

The months leading up to their first meeting with the board are critical, said African studies and film graduate student Randy Short, the current graduate trustee. But, according to Short, a training program for the incoming trustees should be more defined.

"Ideally, the summer should be a productive time for the student trustees, but the persons responsible for training the trustees have as much interest in training them as janitors have in cleaning a gas station restroom," said Short, who's last meeting will be June 4.

Short and Jonathan Hutto, the current undergraduate student representative to the board, have been in constant contact with Sayles and Sterling, preparing the new elects for the politics of the board, the two said.

"For this summer, it is crucial that past and current trustees work together to ensure that past initiatives do not fall through the cracks and new issues are addressed in an appropriate and timely manner," said Sayles.

The two new student trustees officially assume their offices on July 1, and their first board meeting is in early September. All this after the current board approves their appointment by vote in June.

"In July, I plan to hit the ground running," said Sterling, who will leave his New York internship early to start his work as trustee. Again, in true Sterling style, he quotes the Bible and adds: "To whom much is

### Moving Right Along...



Hilltop Staff/Eric Hall

As the semester drew to a close students packed their things and loaded cars to head home for the summer. University housing closes tomorrow for the semester.

### Students Baffled by Release of Psychology Professor

By ERICA MOODY-HANKERSON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Students of Dr. Kamau Johnson, an associate professor in the psychology department of Howard University, are outraged by the University's decision to dismiss him.

Johnson, who has been with Howard for the past seven years, specialized behavioral psychology and African-American studies. He has studied and researched at many institutions ranging from the University of Virginia to Harvard, where he obtained his Ph.D.

In 1992, Johnson returned to his birthplace in an attempt to continue his work at Howard.

"Coming here was an opportunity to return to my community of origin and make a contribution in the health arena as well as the role that Howard plays in the African Diaspora," said Johnson.

He said that he does not regret the time that he spent at the University. "I have done my best to make a positive contribution," said Johnson. "There is a bright, talented generation of youth that will be graduating from Howard and assuming leadership positions."

Many students are appalled that the university has made such a move. "If the university is going to lay off a professor who makes students want to learn, it makes you wonder what the University's mission actually is," said Aisha Masaac, a junior biology major. "He's the only professor at Howard that made me laugh."

"I don't understand why he is leaving but he's a very good teacher and I think he can only benefit the univer-

sity," said Allegra Battle, a junior broadcast journalism major.

Students agreed that Johnson created a unique and interactive learning environment. Some commented that although the psychology professor seemed quiet and introverted outside of the classroom, within the classroom he animated the subject.

Lauren Derby, a junior English major, is surprised by the sudden change and wishes that more professors at Howard were like Johnson. "He's one of the best teachers I've had since I've been at Howard," she said.

The beloved professor said that students should "express themselves in regards to what they want to receive from the university and what their standards are."

"Students have a right in terms of the type of teaching that they receive in any institution they attend," said Johnson.

Johnson met his wife Tamara at Howard and they are approaching their tenth anniversary. They have two sons. As far as his future plans, Johnson said he is reviewing a number of opportunities and will look into the clinical area, researching, and teaching again.

"Clearly, Howard has an important and historical legacy but it's also an institution of enormous potential, and I hope that we realize the greatness of that potential so we can begin to make that happen," said the professor. Leslie Hicks, chairman of the psychology department, and the office of Dr. Clarence Lee, dean of the college of arts and sciences, were not available for comment.

### Hall to Make Retro Tunnel Entertaining and Interactive Attraction to Line Valley During Homecoming of 1999

By CHARLES COLEMAN, JR.  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Rob Hall, Homecoming coordinator for 1999, is seeking to make his theme for next year, "Evolution of the Mecca," a living and breathing reality.

"The idea came as I was thinking of a way to truly deliver the theme for Homecoming," Hall said. His vision for Homecoming includes a grand scale tunnel which will simulate a walk through the evolution of Howard University over its first 131 years.

"I wanted to have something on campus during Homecoming that would allow students, faculty and the Howard community at-large to pause and look back over Howard's history, as this is the last Homecoming of the century," Hall added.

The tentative plan for the retro tunnel is that it will either be on the main yard or in the valley during Homecoming week, which is scheduled for November 1-6. The tunnel will be divided into seven chambers with each chamber representing twenty years of Howard history and change. Hall, a computer-based information systems major, proposes to have all aspects of Howard represented at some level throughout the tunnel.

Hall said he would like to solicit the help of engineering students with the design and get students in fine arts to help as actors in the tunnel. "There are so many pieces that are needed to make this entire project come together," he said. Also, help with the research is needed so that the tunnel is done as thoroughly and accurately as possible, said Hall.

Hall is also seeking sponsors to donate construction materials and contractors to participate in making the tunnel as entertaining and interactive as possible.

"Retrospect is a cheesy thing unless you actually do it right," Hall commented.

Funding seems as though it will be the biggest obstacle with the project, he said. The Homecoming Steering Committee has made provisions within its budget for the tunnel, but it has a limited amount of resources. In hopes of cushioning the cost effect of the tunnel, Hall and the Steering Committee have begun a fundraising team.

Members of the Howard University community were first introduced to Hall's idea at the recent student leadership retreat at the Boldger Center for Leadership Development in Potomac, Md., that took place on April 23 to 25. Many people were excited and receptive to the concept of the retro tunnel.

"I think that it's a great thing," said Jewel James, a sophomore psychology major. "Seeing as the year 2000 is such a turning point, we all need to look back and reflect on Howard's history. I don't think that any of us know enough of HU's history as it is, and the retro tunnel will serve as a means of enlightening us all."

If things go the way Hall plans, there will be television screens, old Hilltop newspapers, and actors in each chamber of the tunnel, specific to the time period that the tunnel represents.

#### Faculty Senate Election Results

The faculty senate election that took place on April 21st resulted in the following:

<b>Chair</b>	
Taft Broome-166	Ken-
neth Tollett- 37	
<b>Vice-Chair</b>	
Richard Wright-133	Star-
manda Bullock-60	
<b>Secretary</b>	
Mercedes Tibbitts-162	Con-
stance Ellison-37	
<b>Faculty Trustee</b>	
Carolyn Whitfield Broome-128	Alvis
Adair-73	



## Voices & Views

### What do you think the University should improve during the summer?



"They need to develop a place where students can get together day and night, instead of hanging outside of the dorms."

-Tarik Cranston, Sophomore Accounting



"Administration should be more computer oriented, and the staff should have classes on people to people skills."

-Billye Rhodes, Sophomore Radio Major



"Registration should be more smoothly run, and scholarships should be given more freely. Also, administrators should be more helpful."

-Franklin Poku, Senior Advertising Major



"Staff needs more intense training programs to better serve the needs of the students' individual situations."

-Cheryl-ann Collins, Graduate Student

-Compiled by Farrell Goff

# BANNER to Connect Departments of the University by Opening of Fall Semester

By RAFIAH DAVIS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University officials say they will be taking the last steps toward complete implementation of the BANNER System this summer.

The BANNER System is a one-card system, in which students' identification cards carry all their information. Under BANNER, the university offices such as Student Accounts, Cashier and Housing will be able to access the same information, which should eliminate a lot of running between the offices for students.

Portions of BANNER are already up and running. Students had their first official encounter with the system during registration for Fall 1999.

"I thought it was efficient," said Jeffrey Walsh, a sophomore human development major. "I have one complaint: it took a long time to pick up. The phone just rang and rang." He said that once the system answered the phone, it was very easy to register for classes.

The reason for Walsh's initial trouble was that the day sophomores were

**"University Police, Enrollment Management and Employment services all play an important role in the operation of the system, from the issuance of ID cards to monitoring building access," said Joe Collins, Executive Director of Information Systems and Services.**

scheduled to register, the system had to be shut down several times.

"Most of the problems were technical and have already been corrected," said Joe Collins, executive director of information systems and services.

This summer, grades and transcript processing will be incorporated into the system, which already includes recruitment, registration, housing, financial aid, student accounts and cashier departments, said Collins.

Another aspect of BANNER is security, although it only plays a small part. Collins explained that University Access Control is in charge of security, but BANNER will play an integral role.

"Although the University access control system is separate from BANNER,

it will interface with BANNER," said Collins. Electronic scanners have been placed outside most buildings on campus to detect who is entering the buildings. Once the buildings are locked only those with valid Howard Capstone identification cards will be allowed to enter. Those using the cards to enter will automatically be logged into the University's main computer.

"University Police, Enrollment Management and Employment services all play an important role in the operation of the system, from the issuance of ID cards to monitoring building access," said Collins.

For Victor Dzidzenyo, Dean of the School of Architecture and Design, security is the best aspect of the new ID

cards and the new system. "This system will help us monitor what is happening," he said. "That should caution people with ulterior motives."

Currently, the university is working on setting up BANNER Web. "Sometime early next year, we anticipate implementing web access for students," said Collins. This will provide students self-service web access to the course catalog, class schedules, on-line registration, grades, admissions, account balances, financial aid and other such departments, he said.

The new system will not only be used for students. University employees will also use BANNER. Collins said that other BANNER components will include the BANNER Human Resource System, which will incorporate aspects such as applicant tracking, position management, employee administration, payroll, benefits, etc. According to Collins, the university hopes to develop BANNER Finance System and a BANNER Alumni/Development System in a couple of years.

## Residence Life Strives to Improve Dorms By Summer's Close

By STEVEN JONES  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard University sophomore biology major Nicholas Pendergrass was satisfied when his first choice in the dormitory lottery was granted. This fall, he will move into the Howard Plaza Towers.

"The best housing is the Towers," said Pendergrass. In his eyes the living conditions in the Towers are "not very good" but conditions are better than other dormitories available to male students.

He compared the Towers to his room in Carver Hall, where he lived as a freshman. "Living in Carver was like living in a box," said Pendergrass.

Junior photography major Ahmal Grant, who has lived in Slowe Hall for two years, said that he is also disappointed with the University's dormitories. "If you were to go look at an apartment with the same deplorable conditions for the same amount of money, you would laugh in the face of the realtor," said Grant.

Grant and Pendergrass are not alone in their complaints.

To combat the droves of students who are dissatisfied with their housing assignments, Dean of Residence Life York C. Campbell said his office will be working hard this summer to fulfill the reassignment request forms that many students have filled out.

"Some people will not be happy with the results of the lottery but the idea is to make it as fair as possible," he said. "In the meantime have faith in the green [reassignment request forms]."

In response to complaints from students like Pendergrass and Grant, University officials say improvements will be made to all of the dorms during the summer.

"Our major objective is to make certain that every student we house is satisfied," he said. "We never stop trying."

According to Campbell, all dorms will undergo routine maintenance, which includes painting, replacement of carpet, and minor bathroom repairs. Major renovations will be made to Meridian, Drew, Truth and Crandall halls.

In Meridian Hall, extensive work will be done in forty-four rooms. These renovations will include repairing air conditioners and ceilings in the foyer area and the main lounge. In addition, some floors will be replaced and refinished.

Currently, Drew Hall only has one working elevator. The construction of a second elevator has been an issue on the minds of many of its residents. Campbell said the elevator is in the plans, but he could not guarantee its completion by the fall.

The bathrooms in Drew are also on the list of improvements. The sinks will be redesigned in a countertop arrangement so that residents will have room to put per-



Hilltop Staff/Eric Hall  
There are many problems in the dorms, as seen above, that Residence Life hopes to improve before the dorms open for the Fall semester.

sonal items, said Campbell.

In reference to Truth and Crandall halls, Campbell said he was very pleased with the progress of both halls, which are scheduled to be finished by mid-December. The halls are located in the Tubman Quadrangle. "It's going to be a model facility when finished," said Campbell.

In order to continually address student grievances, Residence Life is implementing a Quality Assurance Program, which should be operating fully in the fall, according to Campbell. The program includes a

task force that will roam the halls of different dormitories to ensure that they are up to par. Campbell said he sincerely believes that there is a direct correlation between academic excellence and class A facilities. The task force will survey students to help develop plans for future renovations of the dorms, he said.

"I cannot expect a student to come to an institution and expect anything less than the a housing environment they are used to," Campbell said. "Our facilities must meet those expectations."

## District Residents Discuss Proposed Charter Schools

By JASMINE BROWN  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Some years ago, Anita Porter of Chester, Pa., became disenchanted with public schools in what she termed "one of the worst school districts" in the country. So she helped to start a new one.

Porter is just one of many educators and parents who have taken it upon themselves

to attempt to create better schools by forming charter schools, a federally funded school run by outside contractors or community residents with an independent curriculum from the school district.

"You don't tell me where to go to the doctor," rationalized Porter. "Don't tell me where to go to school!"

She was not the only one whose emotions ran high at the Town Meeting on Tuesday,

April 27, when a group of concerned educators, parents and policymakers met in Blackburn Auditorium to discuss the controversial issue of the privatization of public schools.

Charter schools are seen by some as a means of bringing high-quality specialized education to students who are currently languishing in public schools that, in many cases, do not seem to be meeting their

needs. Under the provisions for charter schools, parents and community groups may apply for a charter to run a school as they see fit.

But many in the community have a problem with charter groups contracting with private companies to run schools.

According to Dr. Carillo, a representative

See CHARTER, A5

## ARTHUR ANDERSEN Warmly Welcomes

### Class of 1999 Full-Time New Hires

Artisha Bridgeman

Sparkle Hill

Damon Patrick

Takis Thomas

### Class of 2000 Summer Intern

Joy Houston

We congratulate them on their outstanding achievements at Howard University and look forward to having them on the Arthur Andersen team.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN



## HOWARD UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 8, 1999

Dear Howardites:

I take immense pleasure in offering heartfelt congratulations to the graduates of the Class of 1999 and to their families and dear friends who have come to celebrate with them this impressive achievement. The emotions of Commencement Day rush over us as we contemplate the striving, the sacrifice, the support, the knowledge gained, the friends made, the achievements recorded and the loved ones we lost on the journey to this ceremony. For some this is the first college graduate in the family and for others it is the most recent in a long family tradition. With admiration and respect, we are proud of each and every one.

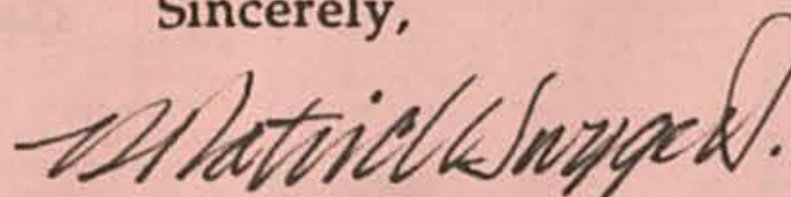
Our graduates on this day move to another level of excellence and service to the nation and the world. We, at Howard University, are supremely confident that our graduates, who have been both the subject and the object of our attentions during their enrollment, will thoroughly fulfill their respective destinies. Our talented faculty has endeavored to bring out of each student her or his greatest potential for intellectual development and a continued and heightened thirst for knowledge. Our staff has worked diligently to provide a campus life rich with potential for personal, social, spiritual and cultural development through co-curricular programs and activities fostering leadership and other critical life skills.

Mindful of our legacy, mission and future obligations, the University challenges the members of the Class of 1999 to bring to bear their skills, compassion, values and sense of service for the benefit of humanity. We entrust, literally, our future to their integrity, leadership, generosity, perseverance and concern for others. Whether the degree or certificate conferred today is undergraduate, graduate or professional, our graduates join a legendary pantheon of Howard University alumnae and alumni. After today, these newly inducted alumnae and alumni will, I am certain, earn for themselves a well deserved reputation for excellence, commitment to justice and support for Alma Mater exceeding even that of their predecessors.

On a personal note, it is with singular joy and satisfaction that I offer particular congratulations to those graduates who began their tenure in 1995, the year I was privileged to return to my beloved Alma Mater as President. You are my "first class" and you will always have a special place in my heart. Indeed, your generous class gift lets me know that you, too, value Howard University as a very special place. I encourage you to continue your generous support of the University thereby providing for future generations the experience and opportunity that only Howard can provide.

On behalf of the Trustees, officers, faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of Howard University, I extend best wishes for much success and happiness to the graduates of 1999, their families, friends and other loved ones.

Sincerely,



H. Patrick Swygert  
President



## CAMPUS

## Charter Schools Discussed in Blackburn Last Week

CHARTER, from A1

of D.C. Schools Superintendent Arlene Ackerman, 12 to 15 percent of the charter school's budget may go to the management company. These companies can buy properties at reduced rates, allowing them to make a profit once the school is gone, possibly leading to policies that do not benefit students.

Assemblywoman Polly Williams of the Wisconsin State Legislature believes that the charter school movement has been appropriated by outside groups and that its nature has changed. "We never intended to hurt public schools," she said. Originally, she stated, charter schools were created in Wisconsin to find a more successful alternative for low-income students and racial minorities who were being bused by the thousands from inner cities into neighboring suburbs.

But proponents of privately-run charter schools hope that they will spur parental involvement and encourage public schools to improve.

As a rebuttal to arguments against private companies contracting to run public charter schools, Josephine Baker, Chair of the D.C. Public Charter Schools Board, assured the audience that the application process is detailed and arduous to ensure that participants are serious about the work of running a school, and that if a private manager is hired, the board makes sure the arrangement is in the best interests of the school and its students.

The Hon. Major R. Owens (D, NY), founder of the National Commission on African American Education (NCAAE), believes that charter schools can be beneficial. "Public schools have become...bureaucracies,"

he said. "Charter schools provide an opportunity to learn things that can then be applied to public schools."

No one present, even critics of charter schools, denied that the public school system is experiencing problems.

Owens contrasted the \$3.5 billion President Clinton's administration is spending on bonds to support public schools over five years to the \$218 billion being spent on highways over the next six. He said that Republicans propose even less funding.

The discussion shifted to ways in which public schools can be improved, including recruiting more African-American males into the teaching profession.

Anton Davis, an educator and participant in the African-American Males Into Teaching program at the Howard University School of Education, remarked that it all comes down to "how willing you are as African-American men to go into that environment and make a difference, and we are making a difference every day."

Participants in the Town Meeting came to share their ideas and reservations about the charter school movement and the privatization of public schools. Although no consensus was ultimately reached as to whether it is preferable to support community-run charter schools, privately managed charter schools, the current public school system, and/or private and independent schools, the Town Meeting was a time for community members to share their views.

Dr. Carillo put it eloquently when he expounded on the importance of being able to "disagree without becoming disengaged."

## Students Still Complain About Campus Shuttle Bus Service

When asked if she takes the shuttle, freshman psychology major Grace Slack replied, "When it comes..."

That seems to be the consensus among Howard University students, who are hoping that they can expect better service when they return in the fall. Unfortunately for students, although University officials are promising change, they are not saying what changes can be expected.

"We're right at the end of finalizing some decisions and some thoughts," said Jane Rand, Assistant Vice President for Administration. She said that it was too early to discuss what changes would be made, but that there will be improvements.

"Students can expect something different and something that is within the requirements and requests from the students that we got last year," said Rand.

Many students feel that shuttle service could have been better this year. They complain of long waits and unreliable service.

"Overall, I guess it's a good system," said Chamberlaine Malone, a freshman international business major. "It just needs consistency. They shouldn't change the stops at the end of the year."

Students complain that it is hard to plan to arrive places on time because they never know at what time the shuttle will come. "Even the bus drivers can't tell you when the last bus will run," said Lauren Coleman, a freshman biology major.

According to Rand, the university should have plans for the shuttle service finalized by next week.

--Jasmine Brown, Rafiah Davis

## Ture, Farmer to be Honored Today

HONOREES, from A1

should be recognized similarly. Howard really needs to create a Hall of Fame for all of its great graduates not just the high-brow ones."

Farmer, 79, and Ture, who died last November in Guinea, West Africa, at the age of 57, will receive honorary doctorate degrees along with three-time Olympic gold medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey and Chairman and CEO of Fannie Mae, James A. Johnson.

Farmer, who formed the Congress on Racial Unity and organized several sit-ins and boycotts during the Civil Rights Movement, has lost both his legs, is now blind and lives in Fredericksburg, Va.

After learning that the Board voted to honor him this spring, Farmer, who has received 24 honorary degrees from other institutions, said he was elated and will count his degree from Howard as one "close to my heart."

"I feel very flattered and honored to

be recognized by Howard University," Farmer said. "I have other honorary doctorates, but I've always wanted one from Howard, and now I'm getting it. This has more meaning to me than any of the other honors."

Kwame Ture, formerly known as Stokely Carmichael, lead the Student Non-violent Coordinating Committee as a student at Howard, and later became prime minister of the Black Panther Party. Ture, who has been described as the voice that gave new meaning to the phrase, "Black Power," also launched the All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party.

Ture was arrested more than 30 times in 30 years.

Ture's mother, Mabel Carmichael, will attend the Commencement exercises and accept the honor on his behalf. Ture, who last spoke at the university in February of last year, received one other honorary degree, from Shaw University in 1971.

The Honoring of Ture's mother will take place at New Bethel Baptist Church, located on 9th and S Streets

from 7 to 9 p.m.

"We are very happy about the honor," said Mable Carmichael. "I am very pleased that they decided to honor my son."

"Mac Charles," as she is affectionately called by two generations of organizers and activists, is spearheading a world-wide drive to build an institute and library in Ture's name in Conakry, Guinea.

"Kwame continues to live as a revolutionary and activist who studied, worked, and struggled all of his life for Africans and other oppressed people, especially for students and youth," said Bob Brown, a friend of Ture and director of the Kwame Ture Work Study Institute and Library.

Funds will be raised during Saturday night events to benefit The Kwame Ture Work Study Institute and Library which will be built in Conakry, Guinea. Donations can be sent to the Kwame Ture Institute and Library c/o The Black United Fund of Illinois, 1809 E. 71st St., Chicago, IL 60649. Phone 773-324-0494. Email: parrots@yahoo.com

## HUH Workers Protest for Increased Wages, Say No to Pay Freeze

HUH, from A1

challenged to effect greater controls on costs."

"What a spin," said Davis who points to a new six million dollar trauma center and a new hospital museum. "They have just spent money like it was coming down from the sky."

Protests by the union have ranged from being symbolically quiet to loud and rambunctious. The most recent protest was the most visible. Last week, about 60 workers from Local 2094 marched on the sidewalk of the hospital holding signs blasting Swygert and the stagnant state of the negotiations. Car horns bleated in support of the picketers.

"Swygert's the Devil," "Down With Swygert," "Swygert, Swygert, 666" shouted some members of the group.

Swygert didn't respond to Hilltop faxes and phone calls made to his office earlier this week.

Negotiations between the University and the union have been going on intermittently for the past 12 months and have produced "non-economic" benefits for the hospital union members.

According to the University, both parties agreed on a package that would provide job security to Union members, along with increased rights in disciplinary matters, allow the

union to enroll and collect membership from employees—employees who may receive permanent job status after 12 months of employment. Also, senior union members will enjoy more weekends off.

Those terms were agreed on in August of 1998, and that's when the negotiations broke down Davis said.

"The union received a fax saying that unless 2094 accepted a wage freeze they didn't want to negotiate any longer," Davis said. "The only thing the union is saying is negotiate. The law says you must negotiate."

Davis took his charges to the National Labor Relations Board and they agreed by issuing Howard two complaints that will force the University into court this August. The University faces charges for refusing to negotiate and refusing to provide information to union officials and union members.

"Howard University has a record of constantly and consistently violating labor laws," Davis said. He added that the University has placed guards around the union office to intimidate union members. "That is clearly against the law," Davis said.

The University issued no comment on the newest allegations.

While the legal wrangling between Local 2094 and the University continues in the board room, frustration mounts and anger fills the air at Howard University Hospital.

Disgruntled workers have placed "Say No To A Wage Freeze" stickers on doors, in elevators, on backs of chairs and on statues.

"The morale of the workers is low," Davis said. "Workers are starting to lash out in a manner that is having a physical impact on the hospital."

Future protests, Davis said, will include marches in front of Swygert's home if negotiations don't continue.

"The way the negotiations are being handled can be traced directly back to Swygert," said Davis.

And that is a slap in the face for many workers—workers who aided Swygert during his brief hospital stay last month when he was admitted for colon cancer treatment. And these same workers made national news when they treated Min. Louis Farrakhan during his stay at the hospital in April.

The University has vowed that patient care will not be jeopardized in the coming months.

"The Hospital has in good faith agreed to reopen negotiations with the Union to discuss wage increases after this 12-month period. More immediately, it calls upon Local 2094's dedication to providing excellent patient care and teamwork to supersede the proposal for personal and collective gain," the University said in a statement.

"[Swygert] has declared war on these workers," said Davis. In

# Congrats To The Class of 1999!

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Our congratulations to MBA graduate Damon R. Mosley for being selected to join Disney Consumer Products as a Senior Financial Analyst.

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## NATION &amp; WORLD

## Eye On The Diaspora

### News from around the world

#### National News

**Florida**—Legislators in Florida have approved Governor Jeb Bush's plan for state paid tuition vouchers. Each public school will be graded from A to F based on standardized test scores. This will allow students a choice in attending either a higher scored public school or attending a private school with a paid voucher. Vouchers are worth approximately \$4,000 per student and can be used at any private or religious institution that accepts them.

The bill also includes annual required tests for grades three through 10. A new test, named the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test, (FCAT) was also proposed. A ban would be placed on "social promotion," or the advancing of students who have not earned the grade.

#### Africa

**Dakar, Senegal**—World Press Freedom Day, held May 3, focused on the 500 journalists killed doing their job during the last 10 years. In Sierra Leone, eight journalists died in January alone. According to UNESCO, forums will be held that discuss why crimes against journalists go unpunished. The conferences will be held in Bogota, Colombia.

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**—Prime Minister Meles Zenawi told the people of Ethiopia that Ethiopia has regained parts of its territory previously invaded and occupied by Eritrea. Zenawi also stated in his televised speech that the nation's defense forces are capable of handling the territorial problems.

**Cape Town, South Africa**—President Nelson Mandela took his last presidential trip to Russia earlier this week. Mandela and Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed a declaration pledging to increase economic ties in areas dealing with gold and diamond production. Both presidents also want to solidify the United Nations' role in global affairs. Mandela also made a farewell speech to the people in which he thanked Russia for its support.

**Cape Town, South Africa**—Police in South Africa shot twice at professional soccer player Lifa Gqosha because they suspected that the 31-year-old was driving a stolen car. Later it was discovered that the vehicle legally belonged to Gqosha, but police maintain that the car's identification numbers were tampered with.

#### Europe

**London**—Engineer David Copeland was arrested in his southwest London home for the nail-bombing against homosexuals and ethnic minorities. The 22 year old has been charged for the deaths of the three people killed in his most recent bombing of a gay pub in central London. Copeland is also charged for two similar attacks in districts containing large ethnic minorities on April 17 and April 24. A total number of 115 people were wounded in the three nail-bombings.

#### Asia

**Lopburi, Thailand**—Thailand is the first nation under the Ottawa Treaty to begin destroying land mines. One thousand land mines were detonated on May 1. Thailand is just one of over 100 signers of the international Ottawa Treaty which bans the use of land mines. About 10,000 mines will be destroyed over a ten day period.

Millions of land mines are scattered in more than 60 countries that kill or injure an estimated 20,000 people per year. The United States, Russia and China have refused to sign the treaty.

#### Caribbean

**Trinidad**—Students of the University of the West Indies at the St. Augustine campus protested because of the university's plans to increase tuition. Although the increases vary between schools, a \$3,384 increase is proposed for full-time Social Sciences students. Glen Ramadharsingh, president of the Students' Guild, suggested to the administrators that only new students entering in September should pay the increased fee. Ramadharsingh has asked the students to wear red on Monday as a sign of protest.

**Jamaica**—The island nation's railway system will be revived under an agreement with India's Rail India Technical and Economic Services Limited. The first phase of the project will be a line from Kingston to Spanish Town that is predicted to carry over 2,000 passengers. The second portion of the railway system will begin six months later for the Linstead to Montego Bay line and Kingston to May Pen line.

The Jamaica Railway Corporation says the railway will provide jobs and decrease high levels of traffic.

## Officials Attend Conference at Georgetown to Discuss U.S. Relations With Saudi Arabia

By SIOBHAN BOYD  
Hilltop Staff Writer

On Wednesday, two hundred students, scholars, and foreign nationals gathered at Georgetown University to discuss the past, present, and future of Saudi Arabia's relationship with the United States. The day-long conference, sponsored by Georgetown's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, featured speakers from six universities and foreign policy experts from around the nation.

America's foreign policy relationship with Saudi Arabia is no small matter. Following the discovery of oil on the coast of Saudi Arabia in 1936, the United States became an active trading partner with the largest Arab nation.

Today, Saudi Arabia is the largest exporter of oil to the U.S.

In return, the United States is a protector of Saudi Arabia's interests and safety within the Middle East. F. Gregory Gause III, political science professor at the University of Vermont, characterized the trade relationship as, "the glue which holds these two nations together."

That bond has been broken only once in the past 100 years. In 1973, Saudi Arabia chose to continue its ancient alliance with Egypt and Syria during their war against



Hilltop Photo

America's foreign policy relationship with Saudi Arabia became a big venture following the discovery of oil on the coast of Saudi Arabia in 1936, the United States became an active trading partner with the largest Arab nation.

Israel. The United States was allied with Israel in the conflict, thus Saudi Arabia and the United States became enemies. An oil embargo resulted and trade ceased for months. Relations were quickly reestablished the following year, and trade has not been interrupted since.

Although oil is an important factor in the Saudi/U.S. equation, Shibley Telhami, pro-

fessor at the University of Maryland, insisted that, "Oil alone cannot explain why America has forces in the Gulf." He theorized that although oil prices are projected to stay at their current low rate, the United States will not withdraw a significant number of forces from Saudi Arabia.

The military bases in Saudi Arabia have been strategically placed for use in cam-

paigns in western Europe as well as the Arab states. The United States needs the abundance of land and water inlets made available on the Arabian peninsula.

However, Saudi Arabia is not quite as eager to continue such a close relationship. Professor Gause noted that ties with the United States have often placed the Arab country in compromising positions. Bombings and terrorism directed at the oil fields and embassies are very real threats from neighboring countries. Gause predicted that Saudi Arabia will respond by beginning to distance itself from the United States in order to insure its own domestic stability.

The state of relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States are positive despite the recent turmoil in Eastern Europe. Speakers at the symposium were optimistic about the alliance. As were those who attended.

Anna Sharif, a graduate student studying political science at George Washington University, feels positively about the future of United States foreign policy with Saudi Arabia, because "their relationship has already survived through many controversies." She adds that she "was pleased that so many aspects [of foreign policies] were covered. They tackled the issues from several different points of view."

## Research Indicates that Number of Children Soldiers are on the Rise

By KIMBERLEE J. GEE  
Hilltop Staff Writer

In today's armed conflicts, children are not only victims, but also forced participants. The latest research reveals that there are an estimated 300,000 child soldiers worldwide. If one includes those children who are orphans, physically and psychologically scarred, those numbers soar to well over one million.

Within the past twenty years, it has become increasingly common for children to be pushed to the front line when wars develop. The age of child soldiers ranges from fifteen to as young as seven years of age. Both girls and boys are used. According to Amnesty International's case studies of El Salvador, Ethiopia and Uganda, almost a third of the child soldiers were reported to be girls. The girls are often raped, or in some cases, given to military commanders as "wives." The boys are forced into minefields, used as spies, or made to go on suicide missions.

"Engaging in military activity at such a tender and vulnerable age is likely to lead to a low regard for human life," said Dr. Albert Roberts, developmental psychologist and associate chairman of the Psychology Department at Howard University. These children are easily manipulated and often drawn into violent situations that they are too young to resist or understand. He believes that, as a result, the child's emotional and psychological maturity will be significantly blunted. "Because they have been forced to kill at such an early age without a distinct understanding of their actions, eventually they will no longer be able to differ-

entiate between killing 'for duty' and merely killing for reckless, senseless abandon," said Roberts.

While children are often physically coerced or manipulated into becoming soldiers, some children voluntarily commit to the military. "Children often have no financial opportunity. They join armed groups because of economic or social pressure, or because they believe that the group will offer food or security," said advocacy director Adotei Akwei of Amnesty International. "Many children also join because of lack of access to education."

Akwei believes that, although there is not enough being done to curtail this problem, there are three major things that must be done in order to end the recruitment of child soldiers. "First, the recruitment age must be raised, there must be a change in military assistance policies and there need to be more organizations set up to support child advocacy programs."

While a new coalition to stop the use of child soldiers was launched last June, the United States has opposed outside efforts in trying to respond to the crisis. "The Pentagon has undermined international efforts to establish eighteen as the minimum age for military recruitment because it would threaten the current U.S. practice which allows the voluntary recruitment of sixteen- and seventeen-year-old children with parental permission," said Akwei. The government believes that raising the U.S. enlistment age to eighteen would compromise national security.

For more information about this problem and how you can help send your e-mail address to [rozaris@hrw.org](mailto:rozaris@hrw.org).

## Supporters Travel to Philadelphia For Mumia

By LYNN SIMMONDS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Thousands gathered in front of the Philadelphia courthouse April 24 in support of death row prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal. Posters, flyers, buttons and stickers displayed photos of Abu-Jamal and asked for his freedom in English, French and Spanish. The rally, held both in Philadelphia and San Francisco, took place on the birthday of the political prisoner. Its purpose was "to show Pennsylvania the massive number of supporters and the evidence that he should be free," said Sabrina Green, a member of the International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal.

Abu-Jamal is presently on death row for the 1981 killing of Daniel Faulkner, a Philadelphia police officer, for which crime supporters of Abu-Jamal believe he is innocent.

Abu-Jamal, a radio journalist, was the founder and president of the National Association of Black Journalists in Philadelphia. He talked and wrote about the constant abuse of citizens by the police. He was considered the "voice of the voiceless," said Green.

Two days before the rally, Abu-Jamal received a writ of certiorari from the Supreme Court.

Green said the police tried to interfere with the rally at first, but everything went well soon after. Ordinary citizens are not the only supporters of Abu-Jamal. A letter written by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee was read by their daughter on the day of the rally. Proceeds of the *Rage Against the Machine* concert which totaled \$89,000 will go to help the fight to free the political prisoner.

The 24th was not the only day of massive support for Abu-Jamal. Throughout the month of April, student walkout days were held at Morgan State University and area high schools. Students in France and Brazil, along with some teachers, were also participants, said Green.

"Political prisoners are evidence of police brutality," said Green. She emphasized that the average person should not feel as though police brutality is a problem that does not affect them. During the rally, protesters were asked to report all incidents of police brutality on a national hotline. "Being a female, I have had at least three incidents of police brutality in the last year," she said. "It needs to be looked at; it is an international concern."

The hotline to report incidents of police brutality is 1-800-764-0235.

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## THE CITY

# For Young, Old Alike, Local Book Festival Encourages Reading Among District Residents

By ANGELICA MORRISON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Grandmother Josie William and her five-year-old grandson, Darmaica Abberiton sat talking and playing on the bleachers in the Banneker High school baseball field on a cool, hazy Saturday morning. The two were spending some quality time together watching a puppet show of "The Tree Little Pigs" at the Children's Poetry and Book Festival held at the Banneker Community Center.

The couple traveled all the way from Southeast section of the district to attend the festival.

"I hope it encourages him to read more," William said as she gave her grandson a bear hug.

Lovingly, she praised her grandson's creativity, reading and writing skills. "He likes reading and writing a lot and he makes little drawings on his papers," William said.

Local librarian, Alene Long, said that the readership of grade school age children at her library is low, she hopes that the book festival will create a larger interest in books and less of an interest in other things such as technology. "There are other forms of media, videos and television that compete with reading."

The Children's Poetry and Book

Festival was sponsored by the district's Department of Recreation and Parks. Through recreational activities, organizers hoped to fuel an interest in reading and poetry amongst grade school-aged children.

Children who attend recreation centers from all corners of the district attended the festival.

"We are using recreation as a tool to get them actively involved in learning...making learning a fun thing," said Betty Jo Gaines, director of the festival. She said she plans to make the book festival an annual affair.

Jo Gaines prepared many activities to capture the interest of the children. And one activity that sparked the interest of the adults as well as the children were book readings by guest readers.

Howard University's President H. Patrick Swygert, one of the guest readers said, "Students and Faculty (at Howard University), all of us should introduce reading as early as possible."

Other guest readers included City Council Chair Linda W. Cropp, Council members Jim Graham, and Harold Brazil.

Poetry activities such as rhyme games and poem writing were used to boost creativity and an interest in poetry.

"I think poetry is the way to get them into reading," said Laurie



Children made bookmarks at the local Book Festival. Organizers hope to make the festival an annual event.

Hilltop Staff/Angelica Morrison

Stroblas, founder of the Metro Muse, an organization that publishes the poetry of grade school students and displays them in Metro Rail cars and Metro Buses.

"[Poetry] helps them become readers because they want to read their own work and the work of others," Stroblas said. She founded her organization in 1993.

Other activities the children engaged in included book mark making, a tour of the Howard University Library, face painting, interactive workshops and puppet shows.

"Being exposed to the beauty of words, and the power of words can have a positive affect," said Theresa Willis, author of "It's All Good," a daily affirmation book for teens.

## 'Sam K' Music Shop Endures Test of Time While More Competitors Ebb into Area

By RAFIAH DAVIS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

It is difficult to tell the customers from the store employees at Sam K Records. The men inside the small store laugh and talk so comfortably that one could easily be standing in the living room of a friend's house.

"We have a personal relationship with our customers," said William Richardson, store manager and one of the three employees. "It's not just about selling records."

Sam K has been at the same location for 30 years, just a few feet from the Howard-Shaw Metro stop. In fact, the owner, Calvin Root, can pull out a stack of articles that Howard University has written about the store over the years. Leafing through the yellowing Hilltop and Community News, Root discusses why he does not feel threatened by the new records store in the neighborhood, Willies.

"We know our customers on a first-name basis," said Root, who acquired the store about ten years ago from his friend, Samuel Chamberlaine. He said that since he has been the owner, business has almost tripled.

Although Willies opened in April 1998, it has been business as usual at Sam K, he said. "I am not feeling that at all," said Root.

Root said that it is the other store's intention to hurt his business.



Hilltop Staff/Eric Hall

Workers in Sam K, say they know most of their patrons on a first-name basis. The store is located near the Howard-Shaw Metro station.

"Willies tends to put a store where there are small independents and try to run them out of business," said Root. "But independents are strong."

Kathy Mitchell, the store manager at Willies, said that was not true. She said that she was not surprised to hear that Sam K's business has not been hurt by Willies. "I don't believe Willies comes into the market to take anybody's business," she said.

Despite not intending to take business away from Sam K, Mitchell could not deny that she felt Willies was more successful. "I think we are doing better than them, because we

are a larger chain," said Mitchell. "We have a wider selection."

According to an employee, in addition to the Wonder Plaza on Georgia Avenue, Willies, owner Lou Rosenfield, also owns 20 other record stores in the tri-state area. Root said that the owner tries to fool the store's clientele into believing that the chain is black-owned when Rosenfield is actually a Jewish man.

Mitchell said that no one associated with Willies has ever told people that it is black-owned. "People automatically assume that it's black owned, because of the name and the

rap music," she said. "But when they ask we tell them that it is not."

She also said that the store owner was not necessarily targeting black neighborhoods. "Some of our 21 stores are in urban neighborhoods but most are in areas where there are college students," said Mitchell.

Inside of Willies, Mike Mayberry stared intently at the high wall of CDs in front of him. After taking a moment to take in the various titles, he turned around and stared at the rows of CDs behind him.

"I used to shop at Sam K back in the day," he said with eyes still floating



Hilltop Staff/Eric Hall

Sam K, above, has been located in the same spot for over 30 years.

over the names and covers in front of him. "Here there is a larger selection," he said at Sam K it is hard to find older music.

Root admitted that his smaller store

does not have the wide selection that Willies has. To make up for this, he orders music requested by his customers and provides them within 24 hours.

## African Liberation Day Celebrates African Culture Special Events Started in District, Spread Worldwide

By Ira Porter  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Banboshe Shango, a resident of northwest D.C., reflects back to the spring of 1976, when thousands of African Americans flocked to the district on buses from cities across the nation. They came to attend the African Liberation Day Festival (ALD). He remembers people dressed in traditional African attire, marching, holding banners, playing music, reciting poetry and networking.

Shango, a member of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party, an organization that first sponsored the event in the district, said, "It was like an atmosphere of a serious festival." Shango is still a member of the All African Peoples Revolutionary Party, and is now helping to organize the festival. This year the festival will be held on May 29 and will begin on Howard's campus.

ALD, is a festival filled with music,

picnics, poetry, and educational events that inform people of the plight of those in third world countries. The day will end with a march to Malcolm X park in Northwest D.C., where a rally will take place. The purpose is to inform people of the struggle of people in Africa and to help with their liberation.

"We've been inspired by the struggle of African American people today; This is what has kept myself and others on the forefront of the struggle," Shango said.

People who come to the events held at ALD have been known to take government seats in the third world countries.

"We have some of us operating and running the countries," Shango said.

This, according to Shango is a direct result of the ALD celebration spreading to different cities around the country, such as Los Angeles, St. Louis, Dallas, Atlanta, New York, and Sacramento.

The event has also spread to coun-

tries besides the United States.

ALD is celebrated in Sierra Leone, Ghana, South Africa, Toronto and London.

This year, ALD is scheduled to take place on May 29.

The theme of this year's festival is dedicated to women of African descent.

"It will seek to emphasize the role of women of African descent in the revolutionary and progressive struggle around the world," said Shango.

The mission statement is entitled "Sisters arm yourselves with revolutionary ideologies and organization."

Hosting the kick-off events from 10 am to 2 pm, is Howard University. The events will be held in the Blackburn Center auditorium of the University.

Howard University engineering professor, Dr. John Trimble, thinks that there are two purposes to the festival: "The main purpose is twofold...It's educational and that's one of the reasons we have it on a college

campus," Trimble said.

A symposium, which will be held later that day, will consist of three panels. A group of women panelists will control the first session, talking about issues pertinent to women. The second panel is targeted toward youth, with college students talking to D.C. youth. The last panel is geared toward politics: various political party representatives will discuss their political struggles and movements for liberation.

"It's so valuable that we give our people more serious information that you normally won't be exposed to," Trimble said.

The rally is held at Malcolm X park so that residents can have easy access to the event.

"The purpose of the rally is to fire up people in the neighborhood," said Trimble, who's been involved with ALD since it started in D.C. in 1976. "It's a matter of being organized, that's what the rally is about," Trimble said.

## Florida Ave. Grill: Filling Bellies for Forty Four Years

By ANGELICA MORRISON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Isolated on the corner of Florida Avenue and 11 Street, just two blocks up from the Howard University Towers is the Florida Avenue Grill. Outside of the restaurant it's peaceful and quiet, but on the inside it's crowded and the sound of conversation and sights satisfied faces fill the room. People are bustling around the small, narrow and cramped restaurant. It's this narrowness, some patrons say, that helps create that "down home" type of feeling.

"The service is friendly and down to earth, it reminds you of your family," said Susan Howard, as she eats her Saturday morning breakfast with her cousins. Praising the tradition of pork, Monique Brown, one of Howard's cousins said, "Their pork chops are slammin'!"

Patrons flock from all corners of the DC and Maryland Metropolitan areas to eat here. Traveling from Maryland four times a week, Kelly

O'neal, her mouth filled with food said, "I'm a soul food type of man." Celebrating its 54th year in business the Florida Ave. Grill opened in 1944 and is one of the oldest black establishments in the district.

"It's a good clean, cheap, old neighborhood place," said district daycare worker Taylor Crews.

The Florida Avenue Grill serves the traditional "soul food": scrapple (a mixture of various meat scraps), grits, ham, eggs, sausage, fish, hot-cakes and a host of other dishes.

The Grill built its reputation from feeding big name politicians and African American stars such as Denzel Washington, Kriss Kross, Janet Reno, and Clarence Thomas. Photos of these celebrities and many others clutter the walls of the small restaurant.

"The photos on the wall captures the whole black experience," said Bonnie Beard who was finishing a meal with her daughter Kristen Beard, a sophomore at Georgetown University.



# Legacy's Leaders: 1999 Office of Student Activities Student Leaders Retreat Congratulations...

Marilyn Hoosen   Q. Terah Jackson, III   Youssef Salah-Eddine   Kamal Shaw  
 Steven Robinson   A. Akosua Brent-Kirk   Solitare Newton   Jerrilyn Jones  
 Kristy McMorris   Shawna Rodgers   Frank B. Turner   Nwaji Jibunoh  
 Jerron Redrick   Akua Aidoo   Shantrelle P. Lewis   Vickie C. Jones   Gia Landry  
 Walter C. Riley   Charles Coleman, Jr.   Alisa Alston   Howard Brown   Erick Watson  
 Lynise Perry   Toi Outerbridge   Millient Springs   Krista Blackwell   Ronald Huston  
 Cara Tyson   Robert Hall   Khari Little   Jewel James   April Thomas   Aprill O. Turner  
 Alena Simon   Karen Clark   Marc St. Sauveur   Edouard Leneus   Waldo McMillan

...On your participation and completion of the 1999 Student Leaders Retreat. Together, you have committed yourselves to excellence in truth, service, and virtue for the coming year. The Office of Student Activities and the Office of the Dean of Student Life and Activities, thanks you for your dedication and look forward to working alongside you to make Howard better for everyone.

Again congratulations!

#### Acknowledgements:

President, H. Patrick Swygert, Esq.  
 Vice President, Raymond W. Archer, III  
 Dean, Belinda Lightfoot Watkins  
 Director, Terrance Samuels  
 Dr. Debyll Sababu Thomas

Richard Dawson

Director, Bernard Moon

The Offices of Student Life and Student Activities

Brandy Pan

And all of Legacy's Leaders past, present and future. Continuing a legacy of leadership "For America and the Global Community."

Damon Lamont Waters, Coordinator

**April 23-25, 1999**  
**William F. Bolger Center, Potomac, MD**



**BEAR  
STEARNS**

**WE CONGRATULATE THE CLASS OF 1999  
AND WELCOME THE FOLLOWING  
GRADUATES TO OUR TEAM:**

**Joanita Ricketts  
Wallace Robinson**

**(AND IT DID PAY OFF.)**



# **THE CLASS OF 1999**

***"You Have Come a Long Way But,  
Not as Far as You Will Go."***

Zhaundra Jones  
Adrienne Lofton  
Linda Merus  
Zandi Fennell  
Shanda Blandon  
Vicki Byrd  
Shannon Ridley  
Kahlil Johnson  
Arrelle Anderson  
Tiffany Ewell  
Nia Gantt  
Shawn Davis  
Michelle Arrington  
Roderick Jenkins  
Jonelle Lewis  
Juanita Mestre  
LaKeem DeWhite  
Papa Kobina Yankah  
Tracy Austin  
Ethan Polk  
Wardell Jones  
Charlice Nobel  
Stephanie Miller  
and .....

anyone else I forgot ( you know who you are). I wish you all the very best. I know all of you, will make me proud to call you my fellow BISON!

*Amelia*



# The 1998-1999 *Hilltop* Business Staff

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Business Manager

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Office Manager

Tiffany Ewell  
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Chivonne Roberts  
Receptionist

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Receptionist

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We would thank the following people for all their support and assistance during the academic year:

Vice-President for Student Affairs (Acting), Raymond Archer III

Dean Lightfoot-Watkins

Dr. Clint Wilson

Terrance Samuels

Paulette Porter

Laverne Freedman

William Keene

Dr. Janice Nicholson

Michael Jones

Serita Muhammad

Mrs. Butler

Mr. Dawson



## EDITORIALS

## THE HILLTOP

Founded in 1924



The Student Voice of Howard University Since 1924

## Honoring Heroes

The quest by Student Trustees Jonathan Hutto and Randy Short to have Howard University confer honorary degrees to civil rights activists Kwame Ture and James Farmer has been fulfilled. Both civil rights giants will receive Honorary Ph.D.'s in today's 131st Commencement exercises.

We applaud these efforts, yet we must question why it took so long for these men? Bestowing these degrees upon Farmer and Ture coincides with our "truth and service" motto. Ture's and Farmer's lives have embodied the core values expressed in Howard's mission and vision statements.

Those apprehensive about the public response to these men being honored should take heart and consider that the United States Postal Service has honored Malcolm X with a commemorative stamp. Thus, we can certainly feel in good company in honoring Ture and Farmer, who courageously fought to liberate African Americans and for human rights.

The overwhelming support for the University's delayed recognition of Ture and Farmer should encourage us to honor our notable alumni while they are alive. Howard must take the initiative in honoring its distinguished graduates instead of tail-gating other schools and organizations that honor whom they feel worthy without concern for what their adversaries think. The lag in time it takes the University to recognize its alumni who have done great things on a grand scale has a direct reflection of the true value that it has of alumni—and their financial support.

In addition, the activist tradition must be affirmed by honoring an impressive pantheon of revolutionary scholars and activists. We have high hopes that Howard will continue to honor those who have contributed to the struggle for liberation such as the former Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, who received an honorary doctorate in the early 1950's, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Hon. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. in the 1960s, and South African President Nelson Mandela in 1994.

**Our View**  
The Honoring of Farmer and Ture is a step in the right direction, and Howard must continue to affirm and embrace its activist tradition.

Farmer, who resides in Fredericksburg, Va., is blind and a double amputee. He is a professor emeritus of Mary Washington University in Lexington, Virginia. Most importantly, Farmer distinguished himself by forming the Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) in 1941, which organized direct-action, sit-ins, and boycotts across United States; that played a catalytic role in inciting the Civil Rights movement of 1954-1968. During those crucial years, Farmer started the Freedom Rides of 1961 that trained a whole new generation of young activists to the struggle including: Julian Bond, John Lewis, Stokely Carmichael, and many others. Presently, Farmer has received 24 honorary degrees from prestigious universities; however, he said that, "Howard's degree would be the most meaningful." Last year President Clinton awarded Farmer with Presidential Medal of Freedom—the nation's highest honor to a citizen.

Ture, formerly known as Stokely Carmichael, expired on November 5, 1998. He is known for his fearless and prophetic speeches that challenged African Americans to demand more than token integration in America, and for his popularizing the ideas and phrase "Black Power." Ture led the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) in the middle 1960s, and later became Prime Minister of the Black Panther Party. He lived a remarkable life as a fearless Pan-Africanist whom advocated for the unity of all of Africa and Black people and founded the American branch of the All-African Peoples Revolutionary Party (AAPRP). Ture will always be loved and remembered by people that he touched through his speeches and writings throughout the world.

In summation, Ture's posthumous degree serves as loving wreath placed on his legacy by the Howard family. We boldly hope that the future will witness a kinder and more affirming Howard community that cares for its own—regardless of their political persuasions—and esteems the greatness that emanates from this great institution of learning.

## Support Local 2094

Just last week protesters lined Georgia Ave. in front of Howard University Hospital to speak out on a situation they felt was unjust and unfair. Such protests happen everyday in the District. And had this protest been anywhere else, it probably wouldn't be of concern to the majority of Howard students.

But the protest was here and it is our concern. The protesters were workers for Howard University Hospital and they're disgruntled about the way the University administration is treating them. On that sunny spring day, they were trying to gain attention and support for their cause. They were marching to gain an ear from the public—an ear that the University has refused to lend them.

They are members of the University's largest union and in short, they have been wronged. After 12 months of intermittent negotiations with the University and Local 2094, a package of "non-economic" benefits was agreed upon. A pretty standard package of union benefits that will bring Local 2094 up to the same level as workers at other area college hospitals. Benefits including tuition remission for union employees, and increased rights in disciplinary matters, job security, and more time off from hospital service jobs that are often times be stressful and emotionally taxing. But apparently the University felt that the rights of the workers ended there. With a simple fax, the University closed negotiations with the union and sent an ultimatum

saying, in short, that the union must accept a freeze in their pay. No negotiating. No questions asked.

This is a direct violation of Federal law. An August court date will take care of the legal aspect of this matter.

But we ask, while the quasi-political attempt to bust this union is going on behind board room doors, who will look out for the patients? Certainly not President H. Patrick Swygert, who has single-handedly led the negotiations into the netherlands of frustration and stagnation.

Although a statement released by the University asked members of the union to put the patients before their personal gain, it seems to us that the University has put their love for the almighty dollar before the needs of their workers. The workers have not received a cost of living increase since the early 90's, while management received a four percent raise that added \$20,000 per year to their salary.

And although we know that the workers with Local 2094 are committed to their patients (President Swygert got first class care when he was checked into HUH last month and was serviced by members of Local 2094) we ask, how long can this group of disgruntled employees serve an institution that won't even sit down and hear their needs.

We urge the University to consider the needs of their staff and their patients and sit down and continue the negotiations with Local 2094.

**Our View**  
The University should negotiate the wage freeze with Union 2094.

## Chickens Coming Home to Roost?

As Americans, we live in one of the most violent societies in the world. We are immersed in the *Matrix*, *Syphon Filter*, *Metal Gear* and *Mob* Deep's "Murder Muzik". We relish chasing each other with water guns that imitate authenticity, and simultaneously thirst for laser tag, paintball, and any other activity that allows us to use simulated weapons and eliminate anything that we choose.

Along comes the unfortunate tragedy of Littleton, Colo., print, television, and radio media immediately became flooded with the same Americans who just nights before probably enjoyed watching *Terminator 2* on video, now conveying their sentiments of shock and horror with the murder of the 15 high school students.

Still, the level of surprise is much beyond that which it should be. With Littleton being the fourth incident of its kind in the U.S. within the past two years, it has become apparent that such happenings are an inherent result of

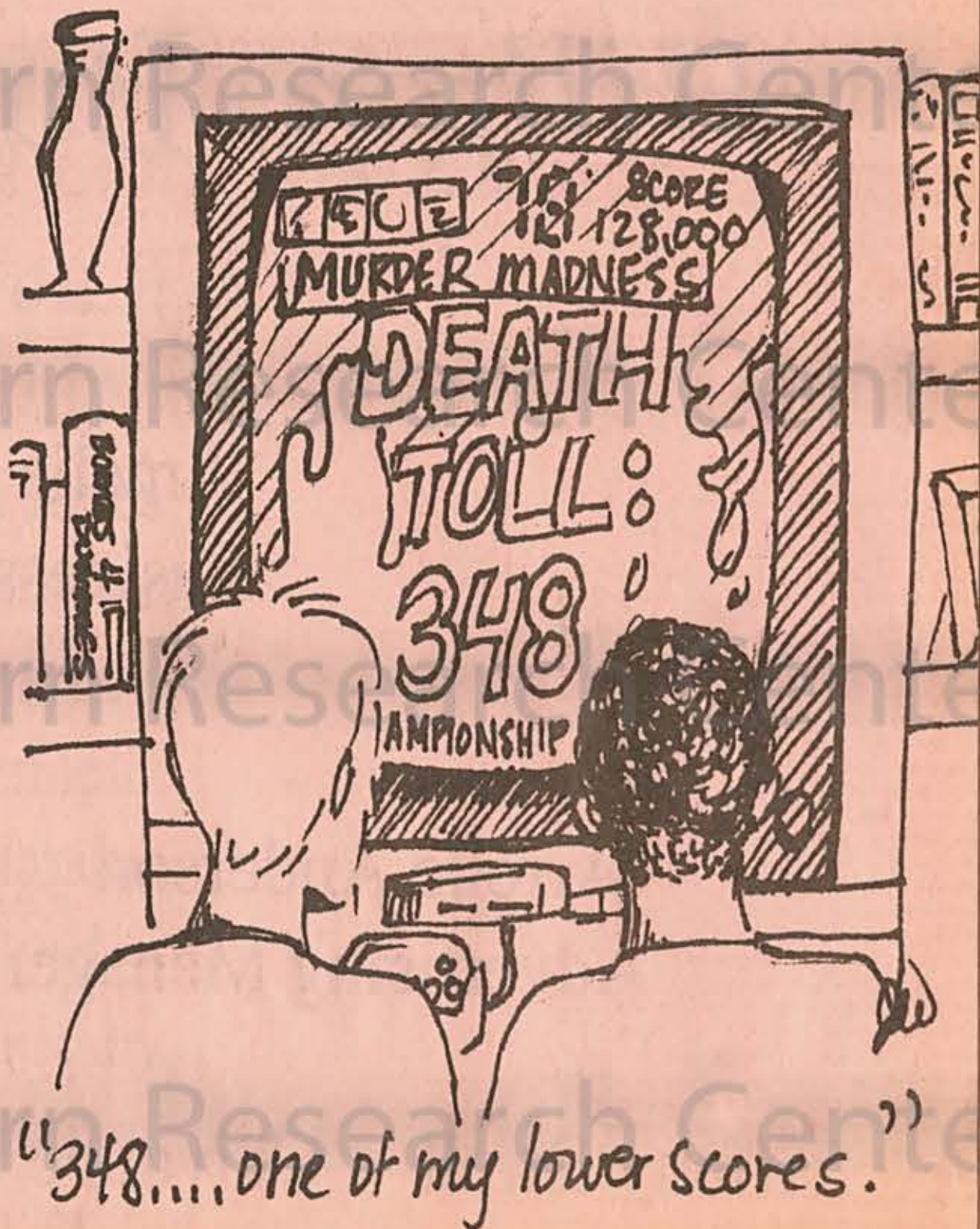
the violence in American society. When you exist in a violent medium, violent things are bound to happen. The premise is basic, yet we as a country look past the

Playstation games we play, movies that we watch, and music that we listen to as an explanation to why these things occur.

To look even deeper at the problem is to discover that while we all labeled Littleton a tragedy, we are unwilling to take the necessary steps toward preventing further tragedies. The solution lies beyond better parental guidance, heightened internet security, and ethics classes in grade school. If America does not accept that as a society we

must put down the controllers, stop blasting the CD's, and turn off the television until the violence that has plagued our society begins to tone down, then misguided young people will continue to perpetuate this violence that has left our country searching for the answers that are already there.

**Our View**  
If we do not begin to move toward a more non-violent society, then tragedies like Littleton, Colo. will continue to occur.



## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

As Chair of the Faculty Senate, I am writing to address some of the issues surrounding the Trustees' directive that, "only individuals selected via a process which includes a mail ballot will be considered by the Board for election as a Faculty Trustee." The Senate objects to this directive which was sent one day before our spring elections.

It was discussed in an April 23, 1999, Hilltop, "commentary" by Keela S. Seales, titled, *Faculty Senate Election Procedures Stir Debate*. The approach taken in the article and much of its content reminded me of a statement by Erwin Knoll, "everything you read in the newspapers is absolutely true except for that rare story of which you happen to have firsthand knowledge."

The "debate" involves a clash of prerogatives—the Board's prerogative to select its members versus the Faculty's prerogative to select its representatives. The Board, now, considers the process for selecting its membership to be within its "exclusive province." The Senate's rejoinder is that the Board, in 1993, delegated to and empowered the Senate to determine the procedures for the selection of Trustee nominees in the Board-approved Senate Constitution and the Board Bylaws; and only reserved the authority to approve or disapprove Senate procedures, but not to unilaterally mandate different procedures.

The Senate concedes that the Board is the "ultimate authority." However, in both the Senate Constitution and the Faculty Handbook the Board commits to share its governance-authority and decision-making with the Faculty "in a partnership, based on mutual respect." As independent and critically empowered as it is, the Faculty views the Board as part of the university process, not just its ruler.

Warner Lawson, Jr.  
Chair, Faculty Senate & Professor of Law

Dear Editor:

It's truly a shame. I assumed that because I attended an institution of higher learning, colors of the cover of a yearbook would not cause such controversy. As I have now learned, it is wrong to assume. I wouldn't have felt the need to respond to all the criticism and blatant "hating" until I saw the Hilltopics in the Hilltop of April 23rd.

To clear up any rumors or confusion, no I am not an AKA prospect, and no one in my office is either. The cover was not made to represent any particular organization, it was made to represent the theme "Seasons of Change." The vine that goes around the cover represents a budding leaf and its development throughout the seasons. If you didn't notice, the leaf dies and lands on.

As was written in the opening copy that traditionally explains the theme of a yearbook, this book is about seasons of change and growth at Howard University. In essence, each student is like the bud on the cover and will grow and develop into a new person while at Howard University.

My staff and I are proud of the 1998-99 Bison Yearbook, and I stand firmly by my book from cover to finish. Maybe we should remember the saying, "don't judge a book by its cover."

Dana Williams,  
Editor-in-Chief, Bison Yearbook

## HOW TO WRITE US

THE HILLTOP, the nation's largest Black collegiate newspaper, encourages you to share your opinions on articles published in the newspaper. THE HILLTOP will only publish letters addressed directly to the Senior Editorial Editor in response to published articles. The HILLTOP Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for space and literary style. All letters must be typed, signed and include a complete address and telephone number.

The opinions expressed on the Editorial Page are the views of the THE HILLTOP Editorial Board and do not directly reflect the opinion of Howard University, its Administration, individual Hilltop Policy Board members, or the student body.

Please Address Letters to:

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or via email at  
thehilltop@hotmail.com

## THE MISSION STATEMENT

Produced entirely by the students it serves, THE HILLTOP is the newspaper of record for the Howard University community. Within its pages, our readers will witness objective reporting and stories written from a uniquely African-American perspective at the premiere historically Black university in the world. We proudly continue a tradition of excellence, for our readers and our distinguished legacy deserve nothing less.

## THE HILLTOP

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# PERSPECTIVES

## Pointing Fingers in the Wrong Places

CHARLES COLEMAN, JR.



At the heart of the sentimental air and nostalgia that is an inherent component of graduation season, lies a question essential to the well being of Howard's student body for this year and those to come: How have we left our school and its student government? This is not simply relevant for graduating seniors who will be leaving, but has an even greater pertinence to those of us who will be returning to Howard in the fall.

A glance through the major headlines of campus news this past year suggests that student government has neglected to fulfill its purpose and serve the students. Meetings were missed, offices became misused, and promises were broken. It was all done in the plain view of the student body, yet only a few were courageous enough to cry out against injustice, and so the problems continued. Complaints were many, still, while students spent Fridays grumbling about the latest reported incident of student leaders "getting over", by Saturday, the Ritz was more important and they would deal with such issues later. Thus, these issues plagued us until election season arose, and students were again given the chance to correct some of the mistakes made during the Spring of 1998.

But wait...election season featured speakouts that were poorly attended, students who looked more for flashy posters than platforms of substance, and one of the lowest voter turnouts in years. This is hardly the reaction of a student body who claimed to be unhappy with the current state of leadership. If this was our chance, why didn't all of us take it? For those of us who complained, where we on March 3rd, or March 10th? The argument that students don't understand the true importance of campus issues is completely shot down by their consistent expression of disapproval with student government.

So what is the problem? It is simple. Students, although cognizant of what the issues are, where the problems lie, and the specific steps toward resolution, are unwilling to move toward changing student government. It is nearly a step shy of students wanting such things to happen to them. Furthermore, what have the newly elected student leaders done since they were out on the yard, hands full of candy and dreams, vying for the vote of any individual that would listen? This question is not to suggest that each and every student leader is set to do a horrible job, but as members of the Howard University community, have we done our part in at least seeing and knowing what is going on?

The answer is a resounding "no" that if not corrected will be the foundation of another year of turmoil. Nearly all major campaigns echoed the concept of the accountability of student leaders. Well, the cold and harsh reality of the matter is that counting on elected student leaders to patrol and assure the accountability of other student leaders will be as effective as allowing the NYPD to police the NYPD. Those of us who choose to accept the undeniable responsibility of leadership that comes with being a member of this community are all student leaders and should all be held accountable when we allow our leaders to fail the student body.

Current administrators who are Howard alumni privately laugh at the student body and our apathy. Still, who can blame them? Would our parent's generation settle for the quality of leadership that we as a student body have been complacent enough to accept? Should we be angered at those administrators who we feel should be on a "most wanted" list if the those who we ourselves put in positions of power do not choose to exercise their influence in the best interest of the student body? Hardly. Before we complain and charge our leaders with Herculean responsibility, we must be honest with ourselves and accept that which belongs to us.

Charles Coleman Jr. is a sophomore political science major from Queens, NY.



## The Negro Problem at Howard: A Crisis of Leadership

RANDY SHORT



If you're tired of living in an occupied state with other ethnics deciding your fate, then you just failed your final exam to enter into the lumpen-bourgeoisie this institution and 103 others strive so hard to make. Racists of old used to refer to African Americans as the Negro Problem. Then and now the very existence of Black people in America causes great discomfort to those dedicated to white supremacy. While I rebuke these American-styled nazis, I do believe that there is a Negro Problem—The Crisis of Leadership. However, the righteous cause of African American ethnic minority rights in the United States has been suffocated by consumer-mad-coons who spell freedom—L-B-X-U-S. The total failure of HCBUs, the NAACP, our back-slidden church denominations, and so forth to arrest the ethnocide of our people reflect both their corporate complicity and duplicity leading us to ruin. For over 50 years we chased the dragon of assimilation, and we have been rewarded with the bitter cup of drug addiction, suicide, universal imprisonment, the decline of our families, and a miasmic hopelessness that doesn't have a Buffalo's chance of a comeback. Yet, nobody wants to admit the experiment to try to be just like Anglo Americans is a failure and we are paying the astronomical price for a mess of pottage. I cannot blame the masses of deprived, addicted, illiterate, and self-loathing blacks, but I wish to point my finger at

the newly sub-managerial class of Negroes who betray their own people through daily acts of treason worthy of military justice. Right here at Howard there are people who benefited from the Civil Rights Movement who hate Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, Marcus Garvey and anyone else who is unbowed to Anglo-fascism. Today they preside over us like concentration camp guards with no solutions to the problems—just larger crumbs and more expensive liquor.

An example of cynical and club-footed sellout leadership opportunism was Jesse Jackson's retrieval of three American servicemen held in Serbia. I am intrigued that Jesse can get a foreign enemy to release captives, but Jesse can't do anything for Mumia Abu Jamal and the dozens of other Black Nationalist Political Prisoners who have been unjustly imprisoned longer than oft pitied Nelson Mandela. The white Democrats used to ask, "what does Jesse want?" We now know it sure ain't freedom and ethnic sovereignty for his people. Another example of stupid leadership are all of these pointless marches to end police brutality in New York City. The whole world knows that by Y2K 1,000,000 African American men will be in jail. In reality black men in jail has nothing to do with crime. Can anyone rightly think that a homey can out-steal a room full of white Wall Street stock traders? C'mon! Could all the shady Korean owned shops launder the billions of dollars in drug profits? Psych!

Mass black detention is an outgrowth of a simple problem. We ain't free, and our white-is-always-better

leaders are afraid that liberation for blacks would make their existence pointless. Therefore, our leaders masterfully finesse problem maintenance—not problem solving. In exchange for this middleman neo-slave trading, this class has been permitted to have the accoutrements of power without the real thing. And, even if they had it they'd only use it against their poorer co-ethnics.

Today, we must resolve to purge our leadership vanguard of covert Ward Connelly leaders, we must hold everyone who desires leadership props accountable for all the shortcomings that we have as a people. No, it is not fair, but it is real leadership, and this action will dissuade phonies from trying to get over. We must abolish our criminally low requirements for these so-called Black leaders, preachers, and educators who sell us out for Confederate money. African Americans must cease from making excuse co-equal to result, inactivity to proactive progress, ignorance to facts based upon study, and weak misguided effort to dogged determination. Our world is not growing kinder, we are at risk of untold suffering.

We must through-off this conspirator caste of boule traitors who are our race's greatest aggregation of criminals who we harbor in our laissez-faire gullibility. We are not promised another decade to repeat the same errors, thus, realize the struggle of the 21st century is that for blacks to seize their rights. Why can't 45 million blacks do what 2 million Estonians did?

Randy Short is the current Graduate Trustee.

## If We Don't Care, Who Will?

MARC BATTLE

With considerable interest, I read The Hilltop's 4-23-99 editorial questioning whether or not marches are still effective. It occurred to me that many black people, especially college-age individuals, no longer feel that certain sense of urgency that our parents and grandparents felt every day of their lives. True, marches today do seem to be a dime a dozen, but they are overlooked by the "powers that be" because they are overlooked in our own communities first. I must ask—if we don't care, who will?

This lack of interest in important political and social issues is further exacerbated by our own (Black) media which chooses to spend little time on issues of true importance to our communities. Black Entertainment Television (BET), for example, pumps out endless hours of music videos, long-canceled sitcoms and maddening info-mercials compared to the thin trickle of news and public affairs programming. Again, if we don't care, who will?

Let's bring this closer to home. The Hilltop is a powerful and well respected paper to the Howard University community and to the larger community of Washington, D.C. It is shameful that the continuous assault on public higher education in the District of Columbia is not a topic deemed important by The Hilltop. When the viability of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) is threatened by a plan to uproot the university and ship it clear across town, The Hilltop was strangely silent on the issue. While cameras rolled and reporters from the mainstream media and local black press scrambled to document the political standoff between the UDC students and the political and economic "powers that be," The Hilltop was noticeably absent. When the student's grassroots efforts defeated the mayor's well-oiled machinery and forced him to abandon what had been his pet project, The Hilltop was nowhere to be found. I ask again, if we don't care, who will?

Those of us in the media must do all that we can to educate ourselves and one another about the important issues of the day. We've got to recognize that, for example, the UDC issue was not just a UDC problem. It was just one battle in an on-going war that threatens our future access to quality post-secondary education. I would be remiss, however, if I did not thank the HUSA President-Elect, Marilyn Hoosen for her stance on this issue. The moral support offered by the new HUSA administration was a strong voice amid the deafening silence of most black college students.

UDC students did not march in this fight. We did not take to the streets this time. We fought instead in closed door meetings with the mayor and his staff, and publicly in the City Council chambers. We fought with an arsenal of press releases, news articles and old fashioned lobbying that slowly crippled the mayor's base of support for his plan. But we did not march because we, like you, questioned the effectiveness of such tactics when many in our own community failed to give this the attention it deserved. Even in our victory, while preparing for the next battle, we still find ourselves asking—if we don't care, who will?

Marc K. Battle is a former Howard student and a graduating senior at the University of the District of Columbia.

DR. MANNING MARBLE

## Millions For Mumia

Throughout history, there are individuals who have become symbols for the struggles of humanity against oppression. In African-American history, one thinks immediately of Paul Robeson, whose passport was taken away by the U.S. government, and who became a "nonperson" in his own country. In the 1970's Angela Y. Davis and George Jackson were political prisoners whom the system sought to destroy. In South Africa, Nelson Mandela was imprisoned by the apartheid regime for nearly three decades, but from prison cell he became the moral conscience of the entire world.

That same mantle of martyrdom and courage now belongs to Mumia Abu-Jamal. Jamal's case is now known

throughout the world. Born in 1954, Jamal became a political activist as a teenager, when he became a founding member and lieutenant minister of information of the Philadelphia branch of the Black Panther Party. In the 1970's, Jamal emerged as a prominent broadcast journalist and a prominent critic of local white authorities. His brilliant political essays and investigative reports created enemies inside the police force and local government, and he lost his job. To make ends meet, Jamal started to work part-time at nights as a cab driver.

After midnight on December 9, 1981, Jamal was shot and viciously beaten by the Philadelphia police. He was charged with the murder of a police officer named Daniel

Faulkner, whose body was found at the scene. Mumia Abu-Jamal was promptly charged with murder, was sentenced to death.

It was only after Jamal was convicted that substantial evidence surfaced indicating gross violations of prosecutorial and police procedures. Several so-called eye witnesses to the crime were coached and coerced by the police. Throughout the U.S. and the world, solidarity groups began to form on Mumia's behalf, demanding a new trial. Despite strong evidence of Jamal's innocence, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to review his case, and Pennsylvania's Republican Governor Tom Ridge signed his death warrant on July 2, 1995. Massive protest marches and demonstrations in defense of

Mumia pressured authorities. Only days before his scheduled execution, the legal clock is still ticking. Nevertheless, the legal clock is still ticking toward the state-sanctioned murder of Mumia.

The Mumia Abu-Jamal case highlights the racist and arbitrary character of the death penalty, especially when applied to African Americans. There are currently more than three thousand people on death row, the largest number awaiting execution in American history. Since 1976, over 300 people have been executed in the U.S. a 5 percent of the victims in death penalty cases white.

Statistically, the death penalty has always been a central pillar of white supremacy and institutional racism. Since this country was founded two

centuries ago, about 18,000 individuals have been legally executed. Only 31 of these executions have involved a white person who had murdered a Black person. In other words, it is extremely rare, if not impossible, for a white person to be given the death penalty for killing African Americans.

Black people's lives are defined as being less important by the very processes of the entire and the police. Death penalty researcher David Baldus has documented that in the state of Georgia in the 1970's and 1980's, the killers of whites were about 4.3 times more likely to be given the death penalty than the individuals convicted of killing Black people.

On Saturday, April 24, hundreds of thousands of people will be coming to

Philadelphia and San Francisco demanding that the execution of Mumia Abu-Jamal be stopped, and that he must be granted a new trial based on the real evidence. These massive demonstrations are called "Millions for Mumia." The significance of the date is that April 24 is also Mumia's birthday. It's the ideal moment to let Mumia know how much his struggle means to us, and that the campaign to end the death penalty is directly linked to saving his life.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History and the Director of the Institute for Research in African-American Studies at Columbia University.



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On Behalf of A Chandleron Productions, remember, we are Bison for our lifetime. We made it this far, and with each other, we will continue to lead the world. Let's stay in touch, and take this celebration as a positive acknowledgement of our struggle for knowledge and commitment at Howard. Congratulations! Graduates of 99 and entrants of 95. Much love and you will definitely be missed. Oh! Thanks for supporting my first production. Keep in touch. Arrelle D. Anderson, Proud Alumnae





SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1999

http://hilltop.howard.edu

## FIRST PERSON

BY SABRINA COLEMAN

For me it was just another Tuesday. For the people back home, it was a day they would never forget.

Before April 20, 1999, nobody even knew Littleton, Colorado existed.

I was riding home on the shuttle bus when, for the first time, I heard a DJ mention Littleton, Colo. on the air. Shocked that they would mention my humble hometown all the way in Washington, D.C., I remained on the bus to try to figure out exactly what they were saying.

It wasn't until I heard a message on my answering machine, that I found out about the chaos. As I turned on the television, the message played: "Sabrina, I know you are from Littleton, and I was wondering if you knew anyone who goes to Columbine High School."

By the time I finished listening to the message, live coverage of the dramatic situation had flashed across the screen. "Two gunmen are inside Columbine High School with bombs and guns, as students scatter to exit building," a reporter said. Over the noise of the media, the police, and the helicopters, I heard the fire alarm ringing from inside the school.

My mouth dropped as I saw scared high school students running to Clement Park for safety. Immediately I had a flashback of playing soccer in that park. The rivalry between Columbine and my high school, Littleton, suddenly disappeared. It was no longer about Littleton having a better soccer team than Columbine; now it was about Colorado high school students living a nightmare.

As I watched the tragedy unfold, I became saddened and disgusted that two people from the only home I have ever known would have the audacity to take innocent lives.

Hours went by. I tuned out the rest of the world while the shooting spree continued. Then came the horrible news. Up to 15 fatalities inside Columbine High School.

Though I was in DC, I have never felt closer to home. The media kept mentioning streets and places I visit frequently when I am at home. How could this happen in Littleton, Colorado?

A tear crept out of my eye. "Why am I crying?" I wondered. I didn't know any of the students and I wasn't even in the vicinity of the incident. Now I know why I was crying. I was crying because of the compassion I felt for the people directly involved.

At the beginning of the semester, I looked forward to returning home for the summer. Now I'm scared that Littleton won't be the same. How is everyone going to act? Will the streets still be dressed with memories of the slain students and teacher? Since my house is only five minutes away from the school, will I be frightened in a place where I have always felt secure?

I realized I was being selfish. The questions I was asking myself were petty compared to the questions the students, teachers and parents of those killed, must have been asking themselves. Unfortunately, the one question everyone wants the answer to can not be answered: "Why?"

Now, it is weeks after the horrifying incident. I was in the cafeteria, getting a bowl of ice cream, when the fire alarm went off. The first thought that went through my head was, "Is somebody in the building with a gun?"

The catastrophe will forever be engraved in the hearts of not only the people of Littleton, Colorado, but of people around the world.

No longer will Littleton be known as a peaceful and gentle town. People will forever link my home with thoughts of a disturbed community where students killed their classmates.

I would rather the world not know Littleton at all.

# tempo

INSIDE

MOVIES  
MUSIC  
FASHION

## SIZZLIN' SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEWS

BY JOHN-JOHN WILLIAMS IV  
Hilltop Staff Writer

### STAR WARS: EPISODE 1: THE PHANTOM MENACE

It started 22 years ago. A director by the name of George Lucas created a billion dollar wonder that has become an integral part of movie-goers' lives. Yes, "Star Wars Episode One: The Phantom Menace" is finally here. And it has millions of fans preparing to be touched by the force when it opens in theaters May 19.

Fans have already started camping out, waiting to buy the tickets that went on sale last Wednesday. When the movie trailer was released, fans across the country flocked to the movies just to see the trailer. In five days, 3.5 million people downloaded the trailer onto their computers.

Since the release of this snippet, little has been revealed to the public. Lucas has done an excellent job of keeping his movie under wraps. Lucas did reveal that the movie is not completed. He said that this was a preventative measure to ensure the movie wouldn't end up in the wrong hands.

For those unfamiliar with the series, George Lucas created the "Star Wars" series as a nine-part saga. In 1977, Lucas released "Star Wars." "The Empire Strikes Back" was the second installment, and the third of the series was "Return of The Jedi." "Star Wars" was number four in the series. Episode 1: The Phantom Menace, I thought the first of the series, is the last to be released. It sounds complicated, but is just part of the excitement for true "Star Wars" fans.

### THE NEW FACES OF THE FORCE

Seventeen-year-old actress Natalie Portman plays the biggest role of her career, taking on the role of Luke's and Leia's mother, Queen Amidala.

Youngster Jake Lloyd plays Anakin Skywalker, the prodigy who eventually uses his powers to serve the dark side. That's right, little Lloyd grows up to become Darth Vader.

Samuel L. Jackson takes on the role of Mace Windu. Windu and the legendary Yoda and are the Supreme Elders of the Jedi Council.

Liam Neeson plays Qui-Gon Jinn, the trainer of Obi-Wan Kenobi and one of the master Jedi Knights.

Ewan McGregor plays a younger version of Obi-Wan Kenobi. Pernilla August plays Anakin Skywalker's mother, Shmi.

Ian McDiarmid returns to his role as the mysterious and cunning Senator Palpatine, who eventually becomes the infamous Emperor Palpatine.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

After the "Star Wars" series, many of the actors went their separate ways. While some were successful, others were not so lucky.

Mark Hamill, the man many know as Luke Skywalker, was probably the most unsuccessful of the main cast after the science-fiction classic. Hamill was typecast after playing the famous Skywalker, making it extremely hard for him to find work as an actor. He now designs video games.



Photos Courtesy of Lucas Films

Harrison Ford used his role as Hans Solo to jump-start his acting career. After the series, Ford went on to star in the box-office blockbuster "Indiana Jones" series, as well as numerous leading roles in movies such as "Patriot Games," "Clear and Present Danger" and "The Fugitive." Ford is now one of the most sought after leading men in Hollywood.

Carrie Fisher battled alcoholism after playing the seductive Princess Leia. She bounced back to become a best-selling author and reportedly was offered a role in one of the new "Star Wars" movies as the mother of her former character.

Billy Dee Williams broke the color barrier with his role of Lando Calrissian in "The Empire Strikes Back." He became the first African-American to have a major role in the entire "Star Wars" series.

### WHAT ELSE IS THERE?

With the Star Wars Prequel looking to dominate the movie theaters this summer, it seems as though there will be no competition. Wrong! With 133 movies touting big names like Will Smith, Julia Roberts, John Travolta and Tom Cruise, there will be plenty of choices for movie-goers around the country.

### ELECTION

It's the election of the year, and overachieving candidate Tracy

See PREVIEW, B5

## HOT SUMMER FASHIONS

BY HOPE WALLACE AND ALIKEI BOGGAN  
Hilltop Staff Writers

It's summertime and the sun is sweltering. Perspiration rolls down your face as your sunglasses fog, and your hair falls. Yes, summer is definitely here and besides getting that pedicure and bikini wax, you need to invest in a new wardrobe. Surprisingly though, you will not need to dispose of as much of last summer's items as you may think (advanced apologies to the Goodwill and Salvation Army). This summer is really an extension of all designs, styles, patterns, colors, and fabrics that have preceded (within the last two years). It's all a matter of location. Example: while anything goes in New York and Los Angeles, residents in the DC Metropolitan area are slightly more conservative, and Washington state is forever casual. Still, no matter what the season, there will always be a need to implement new things into any wardrobe. Whether it's a few accessories (for hair, hands, feet, or face), or 99 new pairs of shoes, designers are still producing numerous items guaranteed to make the last summer before the millennium memorable. Here's a peek at some summer styles that are going to be hotter than Uncle Roscoe's 4th of July cookout. This summer is

guaranteed to have one-of-a-kind pieces, so shop, shop, shop!

### Women's Preview

#### Colors

This season's colors are bright, vibrant colors (like turquoise, orange, yellow, red, pink, and electric blue), paired with drab neutrals or earth tones (like khaki, stone, or olive). Displays of such colors will not only be on solid prints, but also on colorful, graphic motifs of flowers, insects, and exotic patterns. They will appear on everything from blouses to shift dresses. Additionally, the Indian-inspired method of batik will be used as a textile design.

#### Shoes

Shoe making is a true art form, and this is the season that demonstrates it. An interesting spin has been put on the traditional heel, regardless of height, width, or shape. Most shoes will have fewer straps, pointed toes, skinny heels, and thick soles. Decorative prints, textured beadwork, crochet and alligator skin will be seen also. This season, the fashion world has adopted the Sabrina heel (one to two inches) as its own. Actually, other than platforms, shoes with Sabrina heels should be the highest shoe worn for the summer. Functionality is a major key this season, so flats are taking over. Variations of the "balerina" shoe, the classic loafer and Maryjanes, have reappeared everywhere, in versions of each from almost every designer.

For those who don't feel flats compliment their feet, platforms are still available, but their heel shapes have evolved also. Such shoe names as "Lunar Landing," "Lady Bug," "Drop Dead Gorgeous," "Shine of the Times," and "Summer Days," reflect summer themes.

#### Accessories

Bags are appearing in a variation of sizes and textures. Crocodile-skin, beaded, and crocheted belts and handbags will be available. Cumberbunds for women have been created as well. Clear hair accessories and bangles will also be popular. The "bra strap," decorated or plain, will be worn as a headband, as well as faux diamond tiara-like headbands. Floating necklaces that have adorned the necks of Jennifer Lopez, Gwyneth Paltrow, and Tamia will be seen frequently. Neck decorations will be generally popular, and many stylists have been piling two to four dainty necklaces on the necks of their clients.

See FASHION, B7



Hilltop File Photo

## Campbell Strikes Gold With Comeback Choir

BY SABRINA COLEMAN  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Best-selling author Bebe Moore Campbell has done it again. Her inspiring new book, *Singing in the Comeback Choir*, is filled with love, hope, and an immense sense of family.

Many know Campbell for her best-selling novels *Brothers and Sisters* and *Your Blues Ain't Like Mine*, which won her the NAACP Image Award in the literary category. Her latest book, *Singing*, has already hit *The New York Times* Bestseller list.

Success is nothing new in Campbell's Los Angeles home. Bebe is the proud mother of Maia Campbell, who appeared on the hit show, "In the House," with rap star L.L. Cool J. She also has a son, Ellis Gordon III, named after her husband.

The book's main character, Maxine McCoy, is living the American dream. She has a great job as the executive producer of a popular television show, she is married to the love of her life, and she is pregnant with their child.

Maxine's perfect life is shattered when she receives a phone call from her grandmother's care-taker. The care-taker tells Maxine that because her 76-year-old grandma has started smoking and drinking, she can no longer look after her.

Maxine begins to remember how after she was orphaned, her grandma, Lindy, took care of her. As Maxine remembers her grandmother's singing career, one of Lindy's most famous songs starts playing on the radio.

Campbell poetically describes the moment. "Lindy's voice breathed memories into the car. Maxine wanted to sit down at a plate of greens and corn bread at her grandmother's table...Homesickness swept over her in waves she couldn't control, worse than morning sickness. 'That was Lindy Walker, folks,' the disk jockey announced. 'One of the great ones.'"

Maxine must then make the decision of her lifetime. Should she risk her job to care for the woman who raised her? Should she leave her husband to revisit her old neighborhood?

The answers to these questions are brilliantly woven into the story. As she unfolds the answers to these delicate questions, Campbell reveals the importance of family and never forgetting where you come from.

Throughout the book, Campbell intertwines

the struggle of aging with the happiness of being young. The strong relationship Maxine and Lindy share is heartwarming and admirable.

The exchange of advice within the family is an aspect of life everyone can relate to. Lindy's advice about raising a child is important to Maxine, while Maxine's advice about revitalizing life is equally important to Lindy.

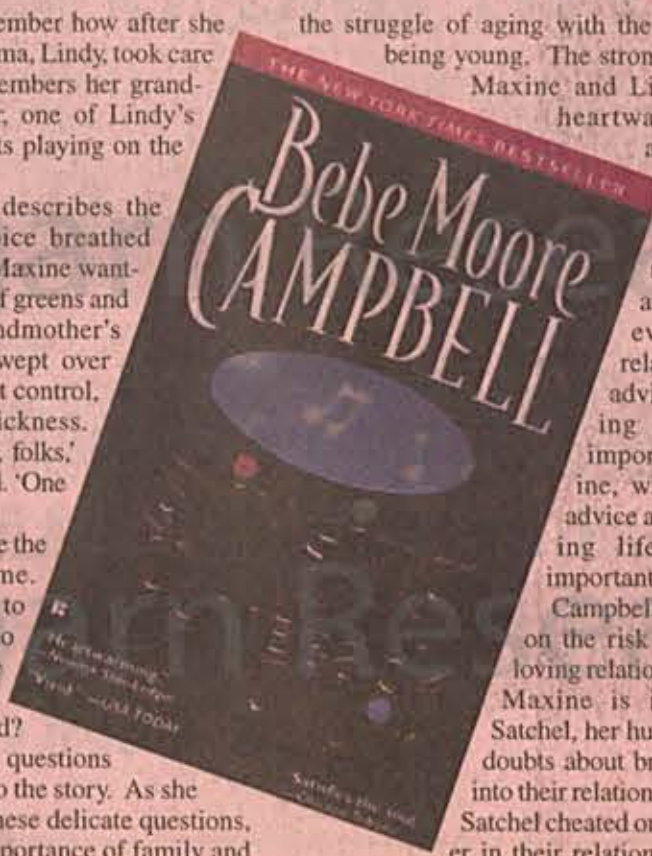
Campbell also touches on the risk of being in a loving relationship. Though Maxine is in love with Satchel, her husband, she has doubts about bringing a child into their relationship. Although Satchel cheated on Maxine earlier in their relationship, Maxine decided to stay with him and allow their relationship to grow. However, she keeps her doubts

about him to herself. Campbell distributes the emotions of both characters evenly. The reader has a chance to see the situation from both Maxine's and Satchel's perspectives.

Satchel isn't the only person Maxine is worried about. Her boss, Patrick, begins to get angry at the declining ratings of her talk show, and Maxine must choose between family and work. When she tells Patrick she will need more time to help her grandmother, he issues an ultimatum. "Either come back now, or don't come back at all." Campbell accurately portrays the situation. She brings an understanding of opposing sides and makes the reader realize how difficult life decisions are to make.

Humor echoes throughout the book. Though the situations are serious, Campbell relieves the stress by adding laughter to her story. However, this doesn't mean she glosses over moments of sadness. Campbell brings tears to the eyes several times. Mixed emotions fill the pages of her paperback book. The rollercoaster of emotions holds true to reality. There is unrealistic about any of the situations depicted in the book.

The book reads as a long, flowing poem. Campbell has again graced us with a novel about faith, commitment, redemption, and positivity, leaving readers thirsting for her next literary effort.





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# TEMPO

## The REEL DEAL

### Idle Hands Appeals to Idle Minds

By MONIQUE V. STEPHENS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

"Idle Hands" definitely deserves a classification of its own as it combines all possible genres of film. The comedy/horror combines drama, action, mystery, love, horror, and the recently popularized teen-scene elements. Reminiscent of "Scream" and "Half Baked," "Idle Hands" guarantees laughs, and leaves viewers craving the munchies.

In their combined effort, writers Terri Hughes and Ron Milbauer, along with director Rodman Flender, are successful in providing entertainment and pressing such crucial issues as avoiding substance abuse and using one's time wisely. It is common belief that teenagers and college students spend time wastefully, with idle time on our hands. Thus spawns the film's title, "Idle Hands." Subliminally, the movie encourages viewers not to let laziness control them. The statement which is stressed most during the screenplay is, "Idle hands are the devil's playground."

The movie's leading man, Anton (Devon Sawa) wakes up Halloween morning to discover his parents have been murdered, as well as a few of his schoolmates, by an unidentified killer. After discovering the deaths of his parents, the bloodstains, and random body parts strewn through his house, he sits down in front of the television to smoke and blow away his unease. That accomplished, he visits his buddies, Mick (Seth Green) and Pnub (Elden Henson), who attempt to help their disheveled friend. They offer the advice of adding oregano and nutmeg to his beloved grass.

In a Scooby Doo-like manner, the twisted group of friends rummages through Anton's house in search of clues to the mysterious deaths of his parents. Simultaneously, sexy sleuth Debi (Vivica A. Fox) is on a nationwide search following a trail of suspicious events which lead to Bolan, Anton's hometown. Who could the killer be? What is the source of this evil? "Idle Hands" has its dark moments, with references made to the devil and evil. As night approaches, the forces of good and evil face off in the town of Bolan.

As the plot deepens, a growing number of clues are discovered. Two left ears are found lying on the floor beside onion rings. "Earrings!" exclaim the trio. Then, a hungry Anton gags from a bite of a foul-tasting bologna sandwich. Could it be from moldy bread? No. It's from the blood that is found on the cutting knife Anton used to spread the mayonnaise. Next, the friends discover a clue that leads to...Anton. Could he actually be the killer?

I suggest seeing "Idle Hands" with a group of friends, or that cousin you

#### AMERICAN PIE

Three times after receiving an NC-17 rating by the MPAA, directors/brothers Paul and Chris Weitz were finally able to edit their film down to an R rating. "American Pie" is the name of this sexually charged film that has more to do with experimental sex than the culinary arts.

In this raunchy teenage version of "There's Something About Mary," teenyboppers devise schemes to lose their virginity and different sex myths are addressed to create a hilarious comedy. **THE LOWDOWN:** After seeing this movie, you'll never look at apple pie the same way again. Get ready to slice up this movie July 9.

—John-John Williams IV

#### EYES WIDE SHUT

In his last directorial effort, Stanley Kubrick ("2001: A Space Odyssey")



Photo Courtesy of Entertainment Weekly  
Eyes Wide Shut stars Kidman and Cruise.

brings us "Eyes Wide Shut." The 90-second trailer of Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman groping each other in front of a mirror left hormonally-charged viewers everywhere panting to see more. This is probably the second most-talked about film behind "Star Wars" to come out this summer.

The movie stars real-life married couple Kidman and Cruise, reports say only Kubrick, Kidman and Cruise were in the room during the filming of the steamy love scenes. Shortly after Kubrick died, Cruise and Kidman fought to keep the movie from being censored. You know the sex will be steamy in this movie. **THE LOWDOWN:** The last movie

that got this much press for having racy content was "Basic Instinct." From what I've already seen of "Eyes Wide Shut," it looks as though this movie will stop just short of a porno. Open your eyes July 16.

—John-John Williams IV

#### THE RUNAWAY BRIDE

Sexy, sweet Julia Roberts ("Pretty Woman," "Steel Magnolias," "Conspiracy Theory," and "I Love Trouble") is sure to lure audiences into movie theaters this summer with her role in "Runaway Bride." With an all-star cast, director Gary Marshall is genius to have created a sequel to "Pretty Woman." In the season for weddings, with romance in the air, "The Runaway Bride" will be a great love story. Roberts, Richard Gere ("The Jackal," "Red Corner," and "An Officer and A Gentleman"), Joan Cusack ("Toys"), Rita Wilson, and Hector Elizondo depict the lovely plot. Roberts flirts with Gere, a reporter, while supposedly committed to a groom. When Gere comes into town, he loses his objectivity on account of Roberts. Commitment becomes a big issue for those contemplating marriage. Will Roberts possibly "run away" with her new-found beau? **THE LOWDOWN:** "The Runaway Bride"—Is this a "Ricki Lake" topic? "The Runaway Bride" hits theaters July 30.

—Monique Stephens

#### KILLING MRS. TINGLE

"Killing Mrs. Tingle" is a sure to be a hit. The celebrated Kevin Williamson (writer of WB's "Dawson's Creek") makes his directorial debut with this feature film. It stars such popular stars as Katie Holmes ("Dawson's Creek," "Go," and "Disturbing Behavior"), Vivica A. Fox ("Soul Food," and "Set It Off"), Helen Mirren, Marisa Coughlin, Liz Stauber, Molly Ringwald ("Pretty In Pink," "Sixteen Candles," and "The Breakfast Club"), and Jeffery Tambor. "Killing Mrs. Tingle" is a play on that less-than-friendly relationship many students have for teachers. "Dawson's Creek" star Holmes helps



Devin Sawa stars as Anton in the horror/comedy "Idle Hands."

have in high school. It is, after all, geared to a teenybopper audience. But, many of us still like reminiscing on our high school days and enjoying the horror stories and fear of Halloween. If you like slapstick comedy, this may be just the film for you. It is also the type of film you could watch on a first date with a potential significant other. There is no sappy, hard-core drama to reduce viewers to tears, nor is there any excessive nudity or sex (except during scenes where Anton watches Luke videos).

"Idle Hands" gets cool points for its lightness, and the thrills are all synchronized in a way that mocks the naivete of horror actors. We may laugh as seventeen-year-old high school student Anton hides under his bed sheets, believing it will protect him from the killer. Viewers may reminisce over the eerie feeling of being alone in the house and hearing unfamiliar "bumps in the night." "Idle Hands" provides laughs as the actors search for the boogey monster. Columbia Pictures deserves credit for releasing a Halloween horror film mid-spring. Movie-watchers deserve to have a diverse selection to choose from.

Serious drama lovers may want to steer clear of "Idle Hands." Some may consider the movie corny or distasteful, while others may be turned off or on by its alternative-type style grunge. For the many people tuned-in to being tuned-out, or who enjoy smoking as an "extra-curricular activity," this may be the movie of the year.

"Idle Hands" gets a D, as in, do better next time.



Photo Courtesy of Entertainment Weekly

for the comedy/horror film "Killing Mrs. Tingle."

take her teacher hostage. It has that comedy/horror angle, and is likely to have audiences in stitches. As students across the nation are relaxing during their summer breaks, "Killing Mrs. Tingle" will be the realization of those daydreams we've all had in class about killing the teacher. **THE LOWDOWN:** With the media showing scenes of violent children daily (i.e. the Trench Coat Mafia), how well will this movie go over with movie audiences? "Killing Mrs. Tingle" premieres August 20.

—Monique Stephens

#### BLUE STREAK

Martin Lawrence ("Bad Boys," "Thin Line Between Love And Hate," and "Life") fans are sure to like the cop-comedy, "Blue Streak." All of Lawrence's movies guarantee laughs, and "Blue Streak" is true to form. Lawrence and Luke Wilson ("Home Fries") pose as police officers. Those familiar with one of his

prior films, "Bad Boys," know he has been successful in attempting this role before. Actually, "Blue Streak" seems slightly reminiscent of "Bad Boys," except in this movie, Lawrence really is a bad boy; his character is a thief. Regardless of how believable Lawrence is in the role, it's no question that he has already stolen our hearts. **THE LOWDOWN:** Can Lawrence pull off a hit without blockbuster Smith? Plan to see "Blue Streak" August 20.



Photo Courtesy of Entertainment Weekly

—John-John Williams IV

From PREVIEW, B1

Flick (Reese Witherspoon; "Pleasantville," "Cruel Intentions," and "Fear") is running unchallenged for student-council president. High school teacher and student-council advisor Jim McAllister a.k.a. "Mr. M" (Matthew Broderick) is intent on sabotaging Tracy's campaign.

Based upon the hit book by Alexander Payne, who also directs the movie, "Election" takes a satirical look at high school. In the long tradition of movies like "Heathers," "3 o'clock High," and "Jawbreakers," "Election" will please those obsessed with the American high school genre. **THE LOWDOWN:** With sugary-sweet Witherspoon and comeback kid Broderick, this film is destined for greatness. "Election" opens everywhere May 7.

—John-John Williams IV

#### THE MUMMY

After three different directors and countless rewrites, "The Mummy" is finally hitting the big screen. The perfect match was found with director Stephen Sommers ("Deep Risi-



Photo Courtesy of Entertainment Weekly  
Mummy stars Stephen Somers.

ing"). After Sommers suggested that the movie take more of a romantic-adventure angle, everything seemed to come together.

Universal Pictures gave Sommer an \$80 million budget. Originally this movie was to be released July 4, but when Universal realized there would be competition from Will Smith's "Wild Wild West," "The Mummy" was pushed up to May 7. When George Lucas pushed up "Star Wars" to May 17, Universal started to become frantic. But, a two-week gap and sold-out showings of "Star Wars" should help "The Mummy's" ticket sales.

"The Mummy" stars Brendan Fraser ("School Ties" and "Encino Man"), Rachel Weisz, Arnold Vosloo, and John Hannah.

**THE LOWDOWN:** It will be interesting to see how Fraser and company kill the dead. Get mummified May 7.

#### THE WILD WILD WEST

"The Wild Wild West" stars Will Smith, Salma Hayek, Kevin Kline and Kenneth Branagh in an action-packed adventure. Directed by Barry Sonnenfeld, this movie's strong point is its original plot. This summer, Will Smith, playing secret agent Jim West, will tackle an 80-foot steam-powered tarantula. The movie is reminiscent of the 1965 "Bonanza" television series. In the film, Smith attempts to save the world from the evil, power-packed wheelchair conducting Dr. Arliss Loveless (Michael Dunn). The movie has all the elements of a successful action movie: cool guys, gadgets, hot women, and an 80-foot tarantula. What else could a moviegoer ask for? This movie is a definite must-see. **THE LOWDOWN:** Could 7 be Smith's lucky number? They seem to be bringing in millions. See "The Wild Wild West" on 7-7-99.

—Monique Stephens



Photo Courtesy of Entertainment Weekly  
Wild Wild West stars Will Smith.

#### BELOVED

By KIMBERLEE J. GEE

"Beloved," the movie version of Toni Morrison's critically acclaimed novel, is now in video stores everywhere. Oprah Winfrey, the driving force behind this movie, also plays, Sethe, one of the main characters. Her life-long friend and lover, Paul D., is played by Danny Glover, while her two daughters, Denver and Beloved, are played by "Set It Off" star Kimberly Elise and British actress Thandie Newton respectively.

The movie is set in 1873, a historical era in which many newly freed slaves were trying desperately to recall their identity and regain their independence. For Sethe, however, it is a time of turmoil and terror. She is forced to contend with the spirit of her child which haunts her incessantly.

Much like Morrison's novel, the movie is filled with tricky symbolism, vivid imagery, and abrupt flashbacks. While some argue that the symbolism and flashbacks take away from the continuity of the movie, others believe that it adds definition and depth to the storyline.



Beloved stars Oprah Winfrey, Thandie Newton and Kimberly Elise.

The consensus of movie critics and viewers alike is that the movie is beautifully put together. It is imbued with a certain inspiration and ingenuity that could move almost anyone. Besides the cinematography, the movie brings to the forefront the hardships faced by black women even after slavery had been abolished. It is profound and informative. For the African-American community this movie is truly beloved.

GRADE: B+

#### THE WATERBOY

By JOHN-JOHN WILLIAMS IV  
Forest Gump" meets "Varsity Blues" as Adam Sandler ("The Wedding Singer," "Happy Gilmore" and "Billy Madison") tackles the role of Bobby Boucher, a 31-year-old social deviant that doubles as the waterboy for a local Louisiana college in "The Waterboy."

Boucher lives with his authoritative mother played by Kathy Bates ("Misery" and "Fried Green Tomatoes") and is the stereotypical mama's boy. He is bullied by everyone, including the very same team that he works for.

After being fired from his cherished waterboy job, Boucher finds another position as waterboy at a rival college. Once there, Coach Klein (Henry Winkler of "Happy Days" fame) takes Boucher under his tutelage



and discovers the waterboy's football skills.

Eventually, Boucher joins the team and becomes their top player. He also discovers pleasure, expanding his sexual horizons with girlfriend Vicki Valencourt ("The Craft" star Fairuza Balk).

The Waterboy is full of side-splitting laughter and funny scenarios. It is a definite must-see.

Grade: B-

#### CAN'T HARDLY WAIT

By JOHN-JOHN WILLIAMS IV

It's your high school graduation night. You are free of the rules and regulations that high school requires. It's your last night with your classmates. There are no parents and no worries. So what do you do? Party.

"Can't Hardly Wait" is the feel-good party movie of the year. It features an all-star cast of up-and-coming actors like Ethan Embry, Jennifer Love Hewitt ("I Know What You Did Last Summer" and "Party of Five"), Seth Green ("Airborne," and "Buffy The Vampire Slayer"), and Melissa Joan Hart ("Sabrina the Teenage Witch").

"Can't Hardly Wait" follows the numerous events that occur at "the" senior party. Preston (Embry) is an easy-going guy with a major crush on the most



Can't Hardly Wait stars Jennifer Love Hewitt, Seth Green and Ethan Embry.

popular girl in school Amanda (Hewitt). Throughout the movie, Preston vies for Amanda's affection, creating scenes of embarrassment, love, and ultimately, triumph.

People hook up, get drunk, and party. This movie makes you miss and reminisce on your high school days, while giving you plenty of laughter.

Grade: A-



# Attention All Student Council, HUSA, UGSA, GSA Officers

The Office of Student Activities would like to be in contact with you during the summer months. Quite often opportunities arise that would be beneficial to your respective organizations. Please complete the attached portion of this document and return it to the Office of Student Activities, Blackburn Rm. 117, prior to your leaving the campus for the summer. Have a safe and happy summer. Remember, your leadership today is a reflection of society today, tomorrow, and beyond.

**Cut out and Return  
(Blackburn 117)**

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

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## TEMPO

## Summer Fashions Swings into Full Bloom

## Make-up

Besides two specific trends, this season's make-up is sheer, natural and pretty, similar to last year's look. Bronzed skintones will be created with pastel colors for eyes, lips, and nails. For an after-hours look, highlight your eyes with a dab of red (liner or shadow) in the center and directly over your top lash-line. Or (best when worn with white, or light gray), highlight your eyes by lining them in Hard Candy's shimmering white liner, "Trailer Trash." But do remember ladies, less is definitely more.

## Styles

Drawstrings will also be hot this summer. They will appear on everything from halter tops to pants, skirts, and sleeves. On cooler days, ponchos will be worn, as well as shrugs (the long-sleeve covers of halter tops). Crochet and beadwork will accent the styles. Skirts and dresses will take a dramatic turn from the slim silhouette to the full parachute look.

## The great White hype

Although technically not a color, and despite its traditional use to deflect the sun, white is the hottest color this summer! If you dare, wear white from head to toe, or simply pair it with dark denim, khaki, red...anything! Watches with white wristbands are being

shipped to stores, and so are white belts, purses, and shoes. Yes, even shoes (and you won't look like a nurse in them)! The best white item that stylists have taken a liking to is the white shirt, in its many shapes and forms. Currently, couture designers like Prada and TSE NEW YORK are stocking their shelves with them in asymmetrical cuts, but versions from more affordable corporations



Both courtesy of Charan De Vu  
Natasha (left) floats with this off-the-shoulder sweater and turquoise bathing suit.

## Men's Preview

This summer is definitely a season of minimalism for males. Where women's shoes feature intricate asymmetrical cuts, men's shoes are extremely simple. Although comfortability is the theme (which actually has never been a big issue for males), pants are slimming down to reveal a male's actual waist size. This nod to slimmer bottoms is exemplified by the tailoring of capri pants, which were traditionally more familiar to women, to compliment the male figure. Even tops are conforming a little more to the figure. Men, don't be discouraged, you won't be browsing for things as tight as the stretch blouses women wear. These new items of clothing are just to

make it easier for women to decipher the intricacies of those muscles under men's clothes! Furthermore, since you don't have as many excess items to purchase, you should use your money wisely to invest in quality instead of quantity.

## Colors

Though colors are slightly softer, a little vibrancy is still in style, with colors such as lemon yellow, orange, lime green and electric blue. However, the primary colors are still brown and black, with additions of khaki, cream, and stone. Match opposite shades and wear loud colors, but tone them down with the earth-toned colors.

## Shoes

Slides are a comfortable alternative to sandals for men. A majority of the closed-toes shoes are void of shoelaces,

which have been replaced with Velcro straps, or nothing at all. Tennis shoes and sneakers are still very much in style, and brighter than ever.

## Accessories

Fishing and safari hats will be popular as will baseball caps with bigger brims. Despite the increasing interest in drawstring pants, belts remain important. You can find them in various colors and textures adorned with numerous buckles, but they too remain subtle. And as for watches, the bigger, the better!

## Styles

Sweater-vests are cut high at the neck and arm to be worn without t-shirts. Cargo shorts are still in style, with drawstrings, torn edges, and zipped sections creating variations of the regular style. Printed shirts with Hawaiian and floral motifs are popular for men.



File Photo  
Rachelle rocks the pink crocheted look.

Naughty By Nature Tops the Charts Again With *Nineteen Naughty Nine*

BY ADELIA FAISON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

"O.P.P./ How can I explain it? I take it frame by frame it/ to have y'all all jumpin', shoutin', sayin' it." It has been eight years since Anthony Criss a.k.a. Treach chanted those lines over a nostalgic Jackson 5 track, eight years since Naughty by Nature first stepped on the scene. During those eight years, hip-hop from the world of New Jersey has never been the same.

Naughty by Nature is best known for creating chart-topping party anthems such as "O.P.P." This trio out of Jersey, featuring Treach, KayGee and Vinnie, has scored two platinum albums and many gold and platinum singles. After capturing an American Music Award in 1991 for Best New Rap Group, a Grammy in 1992 for Best Rap Performance with "O.P.P.," and *The Source's* New Artist of the Year Award, fans believed Naughty by Nature was sure to keep the tri-state area on the map. Since then, Naughty released one more LP entitled *Povertry's Paradise* in 1995, which featured hits such as "Hip Hop Hooray." During Naughty's four-year break, each of the members pursued separate endeavors. Treach, along with starting a family with Pepa of Salt-N-Pepa (whom he recently wed in a Kansas tattoo shop), has become a successful model and aspiring actor. His next role will be in HBO's critically acclaimed prison drama "Oz."

KayGee has probably been the busiest of the three. He has founded a record label called Divine Mill which is distributed by Arista, produced such tracks as Next's "Too Close," and has also worked with artists such as Queen Latifah, Run-DMC, Shabba Ranks and Patra.

Vinnie chose to stay out of the media spotlight for a while to promote the group's clothing line, "Naughty Gear." He has also been working with the East Orange, NJ School district to implement a district-wide multimedia/communications edifice and training ground.

After a four-year hiatus, Naughty by Nature is ready to get back into action with their new release, *19Naughty9: Nature's Fury*. With this LP, NBN acknowledges that though fans have known them for a long time, but haven't actually met them until now.

After numerous business struggles and industry hassles (including the firing of their Jersey City based label, Flavor Unit), Treach, KayGee and Vinnie have emerged stronger and more focused.

*19Naughty9* is guaranteed to be a top seller just from reading the album credits. Of the album's 16 tracks, only five do not have featured guests. I'm sure KayGee knew what he was doing when he included Master P, Silkk the Shocker, Mystikal, Zhane, Krayzie Bone, Big Punisher, Next and various other artists.

The album starts with "Ring the Alarm," an old-school reggae chant with a foot-tapping beat for true hip-hop heads. "Ring the alarm/ Jersey brings the bi\*ch out the bastards." The hook itself is enough to have NJ natives as well as others nodding to the beat. Then, there is the previously released "Dirt All By My Lonely," which speaks of different tasks in life that don't require an entourage to execute.

"Live or Die (featuring the No Limit Soldiers & Phiness) is sure to be a hit. This track is already receiving publicity, with its video air-



Photo Courtesy of Arista  
Listners will be rockin' well into the new millenium with *Nineteen Naughty Nine*.

ing frequently on BET and MTV.

"Jamboree," featuring Zhane, is a smooth groove party song that had my fingers snapping from the beginning. My personal favorite on *19Naughty9: Nature's Fury* is "Would've Done the Same For Me." This song shares the joys of reciprocation and supporting the people who support you. Of course, the background track is one we all know and love, El DeBarge's "I Like It."

Other noteworthy tracks include "We could Do It," featuring Big Punisher and "The Blues" which features Next. This album definitely has the potential to keep fans like me wanting and expecting more from NBN.

With blazing beats, phat hooks, precise flow and a slew of guests, *19Naughty9: Nature's Fury* is competent enough to put Naughty by Nature back on top. Do I think that Naughty has a chance to reclaim their spot? Definitely. The real question is whether the world is ready to receive all that Naughty has to offer.

## Decent Debut for Mo B. D.

BY KIMOTHY K. BROWN  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Of course, everyone knows No Limit Records as an independent rap label. But thanks to Sons of Funk and now Master P's cousin Mo B. D., the label is quickly gaining respect as a legitimate R&B giant.

A founding member of No Limit's hit-making production team Beats by the Pound, Mo B. D. releases *Gangsta Harmony*, a well-produced, 18-track album that should keep No Limit fans pleased.

The album contains several songs decent

*Mo B's Theme* includes a little dash of Slick Rick's and Doug E. Fresh's "La Di Da Di." *Part 3* features Magic, Mia X and C-Murder. Each of the No Limit superstars lays down tight lyrics, which make this song enjoyable.

enough to be played on the radio. I have to admit, I underestimated this album initially. After all, it took literally years for the release of this album. Mo B. D. was often being characterized as the Charli Baltimore of No Limit Records, meaning his album was always "coming soon."

*Gangsta Harmony* starts with "Picture U & Me," performed by Mo B. D. himself. Surprisingly, this song is not half bad. Mo B. D.'s singing voice has actually improved slightly. He did not ruin this song the way he did "Thinkin' About You" on Master P's *MP Da Last Don*. "Picture U & Me" is about that special male-female relationship most of us are looking for.

After the first track, this album really gets "ghetto." In the song "Intercourse," Mo B. D. sinks to an all-time low as he explains exactly which sexual acts he wants to perform on a particular woman. "I just want to f\*\*k with you/do the things that porn stars do" is one of the wackest verses I have ever

heard. Making things worse, he sings the verse which would have been slightly better if he rapped it instead.

Tracks six and seven are back-to-back

musical masterpieces. "Mo B's Theme" and "Part 3" each contain replayed elements from classic songs. "Mo B's Theme"



Photo Courtesy of No Limit  
Mo B. D.'s *Gangsta Harmony* is making its way up the charts.

includes a little dash of Slick Rick's and Doug E. Fresh's "La Di Da Di." The Pound's best producer, D.J. KLC, provides his production genius to this track. It can incite a little bounce! "Part 3" features Magic, Mia X and C-Murder. Each of the No Limit superstars lays down tight lyrics, which make this song enjoyable.

However, I do have one question: Where is the man Mystikal? Mystikal has been missing from several recent No Limit releases, causing many people to wonder if he remains part of the No Limit roster. Nevertheless, the tank rolls on.

Only one good song remains on *Gangsta Harmony*. "Shoot'm Up Movies" is performed solo by Mo B. D. He does an okay job of keeping up with beats he provides by himself.

Overall, *Gangsta Harmony* is a decent-sounding album. It passes all the general tests an album can; decent lyrics, good production and hot guest artists. If I were a college professor, Mo B. D. would get a C+. Good enough for a debut album.

## After Dissapointing Debut Album, Benet Bounces Back

BY MELANIE WILSON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Eric Benet's new single, "Georgy Porgy," is not only kissing the girls, but the music industry as well. His sophomore album, *A Day In The Life*, is receiving rave reviews.

On this week's Billboard R&B single's chart, "Georgy Porgy" beat out Divine's "One More Try" and battled rap sensation Nas' "Hate Me Now" for the nineteenth slot. This marks "Georgy Porgy's" fifteenth week on the charts.

In the wake of his 1996 Warner Bros. debut album, *True to Myself*, Eric toured and promoted his album. However, among many music listeners, Benet went unnoticed. So, when he returned home to Milwaukee last year, Benet worked diligently to produce a more successful sophomore album.

While at home, he wrote new songs, teaming up with writers, producers and artists such as Wyclef Jean, David Paich and Somethin' for the People. Wyclef produced a song titled "Loving Your Best Friend," which talks about how a man becomes involved with his girlfriend's best friend while she is out doing her



Photo Courtesy of E.W.  
After a dissapointing debut album Eric Benet's *A Day In The Life* gets rave reviews.

thing.

After a year, Eric's hard work and unmistakable vocal talent blended together to result in Benet's finest work to date. Firmly grounded in classic R&B, *A Day in the Life* was greatly inspired by Benet's real-life experiences. He re-read passages from his diary, motivating him to write songs straight from his heart.

*A Day In The Life* consists mostly of slow mellow tunes, with a few upbeat tracks sprinkled throughout the LP. "Spend My Life With You" is a definite hit. For this song, Benet teamed with Canadian songstress Tamia to create a beautiful love song that could potentially be the wedding song of the year. In the upbeat track "Ghetto Girl," Benet collaborated with Meshell N'Degeocello for a spicy sound. N'Degeocello's deep voice really accentuates the beat and makes the song.

Maxwell fans will appreciate Benet's style, as will those who enjoy a CD that listeners can sit back and relax with. Eric Benet's smooth, sultry tunes bring to mind real-life situations in a way that music is supposed to speak to the soul. Benet will begin touring on May 8 with a three-night stay in Atlanta, Ga. at the Impact Convention before leaving for four concert dates scheduled in Japan.

## The Gufts: A Slice of Real Life

BY DANELE RIDDICK  
Hilltop Staff Writer

In 1996, The Gufts released their self-titled debut album on Atlantic Records. Three years later, they are back on the scene with their new Lava/Atlantic release *Holiday From You*.

The Gufts consist of Goran Kralj (singer/songwriter), Morgan Dawley (electric guitar), Dejan Kralj (bass guitar), and Scott Schwebel (drums, percussion).

The boys from Milwaukee have put together an album fit for the most discriminating musical connoisseurs.

The group has endured many trials and tribulations since they were last in the public eye. *Holiday From You* reflects the series of trying events that each group member underwent, both professional and personal. It is said that an artist at his lowest point in life will often produce his best work; with this LP, this is indeed the case.

Songs such as "Last Goodbye" and "Happily Ever After" are emotionally charged tracks filled with the deep pain that anyone who has experienced love can appreciate. They clearly express the deep pain one feels after a relationship goes sour.

For Goran Kralj, it was clearly a therapeutic effort, transposing his lingering post-divorce feelings into sure fire hits. *I Give Back Yourself* explores the tragedy of los-



Photo Courtesy of Atlantic Records  
The new release of the Gufts' second album appeals to a vast range of music listening audiences.

ing a dear friend.

The acoustic and electric guitars blend melodically with the percussion beats to provide a sound reminiscent of music found on episodes of WB's *Dawson's Creek* or *Felicity*. The quartet paints a sincere portrait of life's obstacles, and listeners can expect the group's limited audience to grow.





*Congratulations Guilda!*

*You deserve all that you have earned.*

*We are proud of you. Love,*

*Guivard and Terese,*

*Romane and Philomene,*

*Moluer, Roselor, Darline,*

*Adelia "De De," and Angelia "Ya Ya."*



# Legacy's Leaders: 1999 Office of Student Activities Student Leaders Retreat Congratulations...

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 Cara Tyson   Robert Hall   Khari Little   Jewel James   April Thomas   Aprill O. Turner  
 Alena Simon   Karen Clark   Marc St. Sauveur   Edouard Leneus   Waldo McMillan

...On your participation and completion of the 1999 Student Leaders Retreat. Together, you have committed yourselves to excellence in truth, service, and virtue for the coming year. The Office of Student Activities and the Office of the Dean of Student Life and Activities, thanks you for your dedication and look forward to working alongside you to make Howard better for everyone.

Again congratulations!

Acknowledgements:

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And all of Legacy's Leaders past, present and future. Continuing a legacy of leadership "For America and the Global Community."

Damon Lamont Waters, Coordinator

**April 23-25, 1999**  
**William F. Bolger Center, Potomac, MD**



TEMPO

T'ae Fu: Playstations Newest Knockout?

BY ISRAEL COOK  
Hilltop Staff Writer

During the ancient days when Nintendo and Sega ruled the video game world, the game Double Dragon reigned supreme. A lot has changed since then. Games are more violent, graphics are better, and games are more difficult. In the fighting video game genre, Dreamworks unleashes its latest creation: T'ai Fu for Playstation.

T'ai Fu improves upon the old 2D Double Dragon fighting concept, transforming it to include a 3D environment. This game includes clever characters and an assortment of animated morphed beings. It is set in ancient China.

The hero of the game, T'ai Fu, is the last of the once powerful tiger clan. He must journey through 20 levels of action and danger to learn his destiny, which eventually is to defeat the all-powerful dragon leader.

Like Double Dragon, the repeated use of the attack button turns the game into a button-mashing fest. Unlike Double Dragon, the character T'ai Fu blocks and performs special moves that are reminiscent of Street Fighter. These special moves pay off in battle. Moves like 7-hit combos,



Courtesy of Sony

Playstations video game Tai Fu is the newest 3-D martial arts game on the market.

flying fire balls and killer crane aid in defending attacks.

The main difference between this and old platform fighting games is the complete 3D character and environment setting. This enables T'ai Fu to move around the landscape while an isometric camera never loses sight

of him. However, some of the camera angles make it hard to see where to go next. At other times, the camera zooms out too much, making the characters too small.

The characters are well-designed, both in color and animation. Characters maintained their intricate detail

while in motion. A lot of time was put into the planning and design of this game. For example, there are many different characters that T'ai Fu must face. Each level introduces a new character with its own design. Each character also has new movement and fighting styles. However, eventually the game becomes rather simplistic and there are limits on the amount of characters on the screen at a given time.

T'ai Fu's sound track is one of the game's best attributes. Dreamworks modernized ancient Oriental beats, which complimented the characters and scenery. This results in good fighting music. T'ai Fu also has some decent sound effects, although at times it was confusing.

Overall T'ai Fu is well done and above average in almost every aspect. It's geared toward younger game players but has components suitable for all ages. It succeeds as a good 3D action game with good fighting depth and an average storyline.

This game has nothing on Tekken or Street Fighter, but it has creative moments. Combos and special moves give it a semi-addictive quality. This game might not sell millions of copies but it's definitely worth a try.

The Last Word

BRANDI FORTE  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Around 1:00 in the morning, I found myself lying on my stomach, with nowhere to run nor hide. I felt like I was in confession, but the reality was there was no middle man in Black, it was just me and God.

I laid for a long time crying to God, asking him for forgiveness for my sins. I felt like Mary Magdalene; I just wanted to touch the hem of his garment. At that moment, I was humble. I could not breathe. I could not scream. All I could do was call on Jesus.

In just a moment, I saw my whole life pass me by. Was I losing my mind? Was death calling me? Was I pregnant? Or was I having an extreme case of "it is time to get your life together sista"?

For so long, I played in church, faithfully going like most of us on Sunday while acting like the devil's homegirl on Monday. I played many roles: the super student, the extracurricular fool, lil' Iyanla Vanzant, and the artist on occasional blasphemous poetry nights. I was them and they were me.

But on that night, God gave me a wake up call. He allowed me to see myself without value. He broke the mirror that I thought reflected my image, and gave me a new mirror that exposed me from every angle. I could not play games that night. I did not have a blunt, Newport, or bottle of White Zinfandel to ease my reality away.

The problems I had previously suppressed arrived at their final destination, my room. It was then I realized that M.A.C. Lipsticks, a \$50,000 dollar car, a house on a hill, and a degree do not make me. I mean, really, who am I?

I asked God. And He answered me in a firm voice, "My child, I see you. As the snot and tears flowed like a river in my condensed room, for once in my life I felt cleansed. I felt like I had purged my soul in front of my Tupac framework and meaningless DKNY jeans. And I cried. Those tears were for real. I cried for all the brothas and sistas who've died, for those who will die before this year ends, and for the revolution that lies ahead.

They say God works in mysterious ways. I say God works when everyone is asleep, when it's just you and him. If you want to know who you really are beyond the Big Willie dreams, then I say challenge yourself to take out the mirror that truly reflects you, and accept yourself, nightmare or reality.

It would be nice to say that we're all in college to get a degree, but most of us have lost ourselves along the way, and wouldn't be able to recognize ourselves if we tried. But as for me, I can no longer take this life lightly. What I do from now on has to be for God. To better myself or prepare for the revolution that is to come.

The Last Word is a weekly feature column that gives readers food for thought.

Dear Rosy,

I think I might have fallen in love. At the beginning of this school year, I met the most wonderful guy. Granted he isn't perfect, but who is? Well anyway, this guy and I have been involved ever since we made it official in January. Rosy, believe me when I say that he is great. Not only are we physically compatible, we are able to talk. Honestly, I feel blessed to have him in my life. So you may wonder, what's the problem? I am a freshman from Virginia. He is a graduating senior from California. I really care about him but, I don't know if the relationship can survive the distance. Should I try to work it out or accept the inevitable and end it now?

Signed,  
Confused in Love

Dear Confused in Love,

As I read your letter, one word jumped out at me and stuck in my mind: freshman. I don't mean to stick the traditional freshman stereotype on you, but you are young and naive. Just about every girl dreams of going away to school and immediately sinking their hooks into a college man. Hey, I'll confess that I was one of those girls with that same dream; it comes with the freshman experience. Freshmen boys come here expecting college to be one big orgy with panties falling from the sky. The point I'm trying to make is, it is unrealistic to go away to college expecting to find your dream guy on the bus to King's Dominion during your first year. (It's also unrealistic to expect Drew Hall to be overrun by desperate girls every night...oops, maybe not.)

I'm not doubting your feelings for him. I believe you really do care for him, and there is a good chance that he cares about you. But, how do you know he is the right one for you? There are so many men here and any one of them could be just

as compatible with you, if not more than this other guy. Do you really want to waste away the next three years pining for him when you could be exploring your options? More importantly, do you think he is willing to waste away three years of his life pining for you? One of the purposes of going to college is to open yourself to new experiences. I don't think you should put all your chips on the table for this one guy. You can both stay in touch and remain close, but I don't think a serious relationship is possible. You aren't ready. If you are still communicating with him in a couple of years, after you have dated other guys and have more relationship experience, then maybe a deeper relationship will be possible. Take your time and enjoy the ride. You don't need to apply for your MRS. degree just yet.

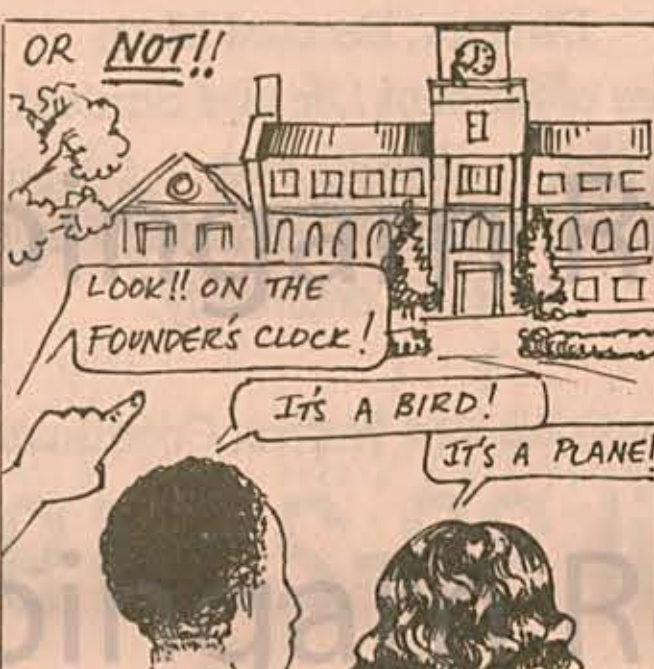
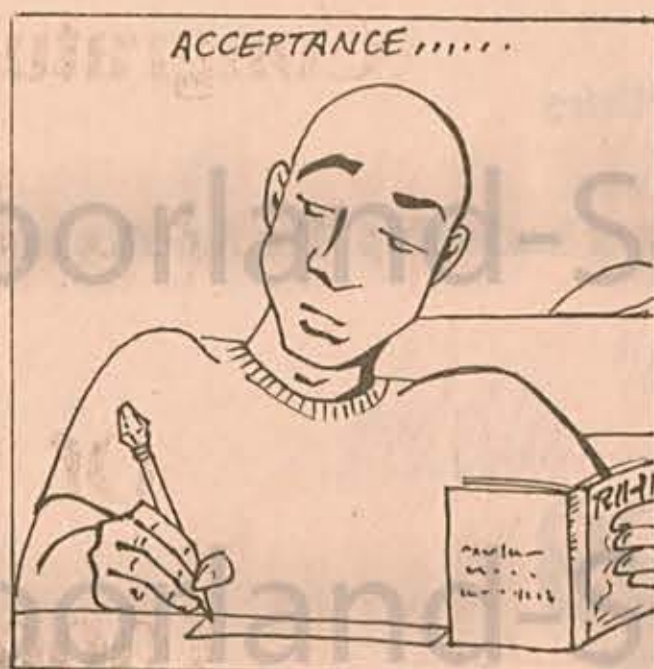
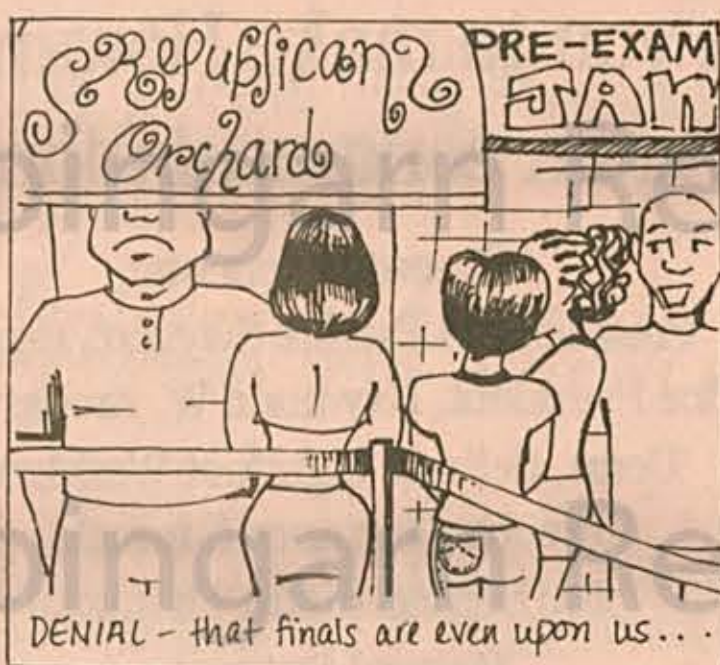
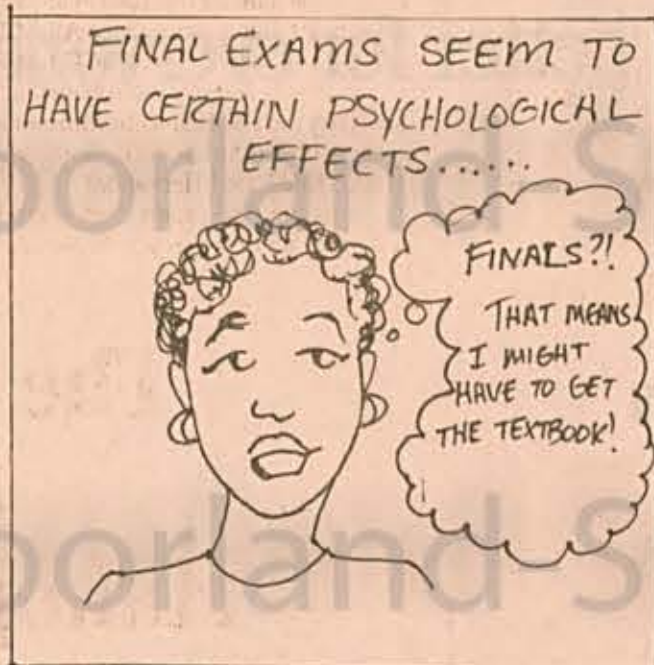
Dear Rosy is a weekly advice column dedicated to helping the Howard students with life problems. Rosy is a senior psychology major and can be reached at thehilltop@hotmail.com.

A Day In The Life

By J. Weatherly

A DAY IN THE LIFE

By J. Weatherly





# SPORTS *Saturday*

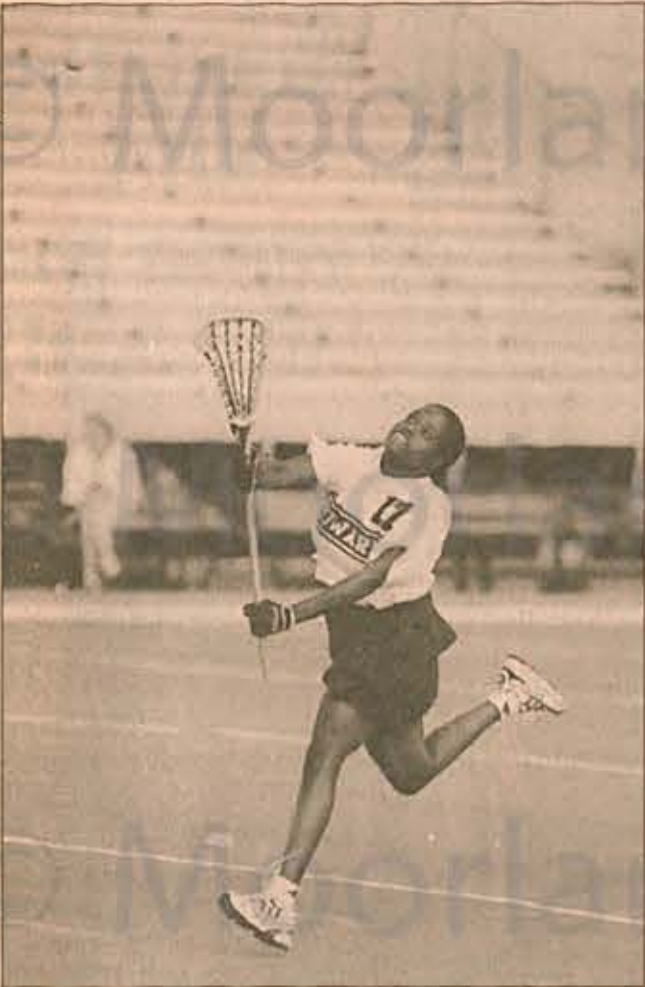


Photo by Mark Coleman/Hilltop Staff  
Lacrosse player Chari Chester was a key member of the team this season. Here, she attempts to push the ball up the field.

## Lacrosse Season Winds Down Players Reflect on Past Season Focus on Next Year

By KEVIN D. STEWART  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard's women lacrosse team has wrapped up its second year. Howard has the distinction of having the only lacrosse team at a historically black college or university. The team was led by Coach Laurie Ann Podmilsak to a 3-8 record. Though this is the same record that was compiled last season, the women feel that this team showed improvement over the inaugural squad.

Casey McDaniel, a sophomore radio, television and film major from Pittsburgh, Pa., is the soft-spoken captain of the team. She feels that this year's squad performance improved during this season.

"Our season went well," said McDaniel. "We gave the teams harder competition this year. Teams that we lost to last year by 10 to 20 points, we narrowed the margin of points against and gave these teams better competition."

Support from the Howard Community has increased for the lacrosse team. Though this hardly rivals any other organized sport on campus, an increasing number of people are learning about these ladies who hurl a projectile with such speed and intensity that keeping track of it can be dizzying. This fast-paced event can lead to high scores, making this one of Howard's most exciting sports to watch.

McDaniel believes that this sport will continue to grow in popularity on campus.

*"I think people are still learning that we have a lacrosse team. I think people mean to come, but they don't always. We get a lot of curious people, but if people learn about the sport they would come and watch us."*

--Casey McDaniels

"I think people are still learning that we have a lacrosse team. I think people mean to come, but they don't always. We get a lot of curious people, but if people learn about the sport they would come and watch us," said McDaniel. This year's Most Valuable Player is Margaret Lester, a sophomore biology major from Capitol Heights, Md. She also noticed a growth in the popularity of their sport.

"We are starting to get a lot more respect. People are starting to recognize us as we walk on campus... You may see a lot of people who may tell us that they stick their heads into a game and the next thing you know they are here watching them. We have regular fans unlike before, and it's starting to get bigger and bigger," Lester said. She added that some people watch the games to see people get hit.

Both ladies agreed that John Hopkins was their toughest opponent of the year. But the ladies were happy to have won their last match against Marist College. That was a high point of the season and gives the team something to build on for the next year. Each player believed this year's team was able to keep games closer in score to teams that they were not supposed to be able to compete with.

This year's band of recruits consisted of some ladies who have never played lacrosse. Four of their starters fell into this category. They are even able to get ladies from other sports to come out for the team. The ladies also have a freshman goalie, an important job rarely entrusted to a freshman. Their record does not reflect what these ladies have accomplished in such a short time. They were able to play well against teams consisting of players who have had six or more years of experience at playing lacrosse.

McDaniel and Lester both feel that next year's squad will be able to reap the rewards of recruiting players straight out of high school. Lester issued a warning to Howard students about the women's lacrosse team.

"We are the team to watch... We got the heart and next year we will have the players. We will be the team people should want to come out and see, because I think it will be a very exciting game," Lester said.

So next year when you see these ladies brandishing their sticks on the yard, just remember that they are playing for keeps.

## Going, Going, Gone...



Photo Courtesy: Trey Wheat  
Former Howard baseball player Herbert "Trey" Wheat has traded in his collegiate uniform for a professional one. Wheat, who will be graduating today, will play in the Arizona Diamond back's farm system, Class 1-A.

## H.U. Baseball Player set for Major Leagues After Today's Graduation

By ROBYN GINA WALKER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

A baseball player exhibits true passion for his game with every swing, every catch, and every slide. Despite sweat, pain, and injury a true baseball player prepares for the day that he is able to show a stadium full of spectators that he is ready, willing, and very able to play ball.

Talent and opportunity are required if an athlete is to make a career out of his or her sport. The Chicago White Sox have provided Trey Wheat with the opportunity and now Wheat must prove that he has major league talent in every swing.

Herbert "Trey" Wheat, a computer based information systems major from Petersburg, Va., will be graduating today, he will return from Arizona, where he currently plays in Class 1-A baseball for the Chicago White Sox. He accumulated many outstanding statistics while here at Howard. Wheat set the record for triples (30), was one of top ten in the nation last year for stolen bases, made first team All-Conference (three times), and made All-Tournament team (twotimes).

Even though the Howard team will miss Wheat, he will also miss his undergraduate years.

"I will miss the social life at Howard, the friends that have been there and supported me with my baseball endeavors" said Wheat. "Howard has taught me how to be independent and how to work on my own. I got a chance to

play against the top competition in college baseball. Some of the guys I played against are here with me in Arizona or are playing for other teams already."

Wheat also discusses the hard times as a baseball player at Howard.

"It was rough because we were always on the road. We always had to catch up on homework and take make-up exams," says Wheat.

He says, "My most memorable moment as a baseball player at Howard would have to be when we beat Norfolk State in the MEAC Championship in 1998."

Wheat finished school in December of 1998 and traveled to Arizona for extended spring training during the first week of March.

"It's like they ship us around a lot because we go play in different cities each month. Right now I am in Class 1-A. They move you up depending on your performance," he explains.

Wheat may move up to 1-AA soon. Currently he is leading in hitting. Wheat has hopes of finally reaching the "big show."

"Hopefully in a couple of years I will be playing for the Chicago White Sox that everyone sees on TV," states Wheat.

Wheat, who just turned 23, will be walking across the stage on May 8, 1999. After that, he will continue to pursue his baseball career.

Wheat says, "I've been playing baseball for 18 years now, ever since I was five, and it has always been a dream for me and my family."

Kristy M. Hinds contributed to this article.

## On Deck!

## Bison Baseball Team Prepares to Defend Title

By KEVIN D. STEWART  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Howard's powerhouse baseball team has experienced a roller coaster ride of highs and lows on route to defending their Mid-eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) title. The team is led by Coach Chuck Hinton and his brother, Assistant Coach James Hinton. After a rough start (0-8-0), which saw losses to such nationally ranked teams as Arizona State, Texas Tech, and Mercer, the team was able to get on track with a 11-4 win against Mercer.

Second baseman George O'Meir, a senior child psychology major from Brooklyn, New York and self-proclaimed defensive specialist, comments on the beginning of the season for the team.

"It was a bumpy ride for us, and losing eight games straight was a hard blow. We were able to get over that slump and now we are playing as a team and winning some ball games. We are really juiced for the tournament," said O'Meir.

Howard's turn-around is no fluke. Six players on the roster have batting averages above .300 and there are eight players in double digits in runs batted in (R.B.I.). Yet this is not the only reasons why the team has returned to its winning ways. O'Meir explains the balance that must be made in offense and Defense.

"In order to win games you have to lower the number of mental and on field errors committed. A good defensive effort can prevent the other team from exploiting bad pitches," states O'Meir.

The team's record (as of 9-5-0 in the MEAC and 14-29-0 overall) does not reflect the performance and strengths of the team. Unlike other MEAC teams which boast better overall records, many of them played lower caliber teams. Howard's team competed against some of the nation's best teams such as Arizona State, Georgia Tech, Kansas State, and Wichita State.

Undergraduate Assistant Coach Johan Hernandez, a senior biology major, believes that playing these nationally ranked teams will provide the competition that is needed to allow Howard to reach the next level of play.

"We play the hardest schedule in the nation and definitely in our conference," states Hernandez. "I believe we played five teams that are ranked in the top twenty five in the nation. Most teams in the MEAC don't even think about playing them."

Howard has clinched the number two seed for the MEAC North Division in the tournament which was held on Friday against the third seed from MEAC South Division, Norfolk State. Results of this game were not available at the time of press. A double-header between the two teams were canceled last Friday, which would have been a great chance for each team to scout the other for the upcoming first round tournament game between each other. The winner of the MEAC tournament receives an automatic bid for the NCAA regionals.

Howard is currently second in the MEAC North Division behind Delaware State. Four tough losses to Delaware helped propel them in front of the team. Howard redeemed themselves with two decisive wins (13-2 and 8-0) toward the end of the season. Players are confident that if the two teams met in the tournament, the game would be closer than the previous outings.

Another team that will provide Howard with an obstacle in the tournament is Bethune-Cookman College (BCC). BCC is the number one seed in the MEAC South Division. They boast four players on the All-MEAC First Team. Hernandez comments on the BCC factor in the tournament.

"Bethune-Cookman is the team that we have to watch out for. They have a great team with some great players. They along with Norfolk will challenge us in our defense of the MEAC title," said Hernandez.

During the days leading up to the tournament, O'Meir believed that the team was becoming a cohesive unit.

The  
Hilltop  
Congratulates  
Class  
Of  
1999



# Howard's Football Team Gears Up for Fall Season

## Spring Training Camp Proves to be Productive

By ROBYN GINA WALKER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

After losing 19 seniors, including All-American quarterback Ted "Sweet Flight" White and All-MEAC defensive tackle Marques Douglas, the Howard football team will need to work extra hard for the upcoming season.

With the recent departure of future NFL quarterback White, head coach Steve Wilson must look to three backups, Bobby Townsend, Donald Clark and Roy Anderson to replace the most productive passer in both school and conference history. The team is very young at several key positions, including secondary, quarterback, and wide receiver.

Damion Moss, a cornerback, who sat out last season from a knee injury, is happy to return. He comments on the 1999 coming season.

"We lost a lot of key components including a quarterback position which will be a battle for next year, running backs which we do have good replacements for, and our defense which is young but have a lot

of heart," said Moss. "I think after we start two-a-days in August we'll be the fastest defense in the MEAC. Overall I feel we will do fine."

During the April Blue-White scrimmage game at Greene Stadium, coaches were pleased with the performances of the players. Running backs Jermaine Hutchinson and David Johnson both rushed for more than 100 yards. Hutchinson was hitting holes exceptionally well. He had one touchdown reception and runs of 30, 20, 15, and 13-yards.

Townsend, a 6'6" sophomore from Texas, took most of the snaps, completing 5 of 17 passes for 72 yards and two touchdowns. Unfortunately, most of the offensive lineman, including senior offensive tackle and All-American candidate Levar Young, sat out the contest, probably resulting in Townsend being sacked seven times by Howard's defense.

The Bison defense was key during spring drills. Wilson praised the defensive efforts of Rashaard Jackson (3 sacks, 1 blocked pass, 1 hurry), Rhovan Hill (2 sacks), Damion Moss (interception for a TD). As the spring season comes to an end, Coach Wil-



Several football players practice hard in preparation for the upcoming season.

son predicts that Howard will be competitive at the start of the 1999 season.

The Bison, who finished 7-4 last

season, will be opening up its season Sept. 4, when it travels to Jackson State. After that, the Bison meet Hampton at RFK Stadium and then

head to Cincinnati. The Bison will then play three straight home games before hitting the road for four of their last five contests.

1999 Howard University football recruits		Charlotte, N.C.		ton, MD		1999 Howard University Football Schedule		1:00 p.m. Home	
Elton Allen	OT	Shaun Miller	Charlotte, N.C.	Glen Vinson, Jr.	Asheville, NC	9/4	Jackson State	10/16	Towson State
Gaffney, S.C.		Vincent Neclos	Hendersonville, N.C.	Tracy White	St. Stephen, SC	TBA	Away	1:00 p.m. Home	
Jonathan Brewer	WR	Mark Owens	Bowie, Md.	Antoine Basden	Upper Marlboro, MD	9/11	Hampton	10/23	North Carolina A&T
Charlotte, N.C.		Tauric Rice	Winston-Salem, NC	Jeremy Holt	Orlando, FL	1:30 p.m. RFK Stadium		1:30 p.m. Away	
Dwight Davis	LB	RB		CB		9/18	Bethune-Cookman	10/30	Norfolk State
Hendersonville, N.C.		Salem, NC		Kodi Gorden	Carroll, MD	2:30 p.m. Cinc-ergy Field, Cincinnati, Ohio		1:30 p.m. Away	
Rashad Frazier	DB	Troyce Sanders	Asheville, NC	TE/DL	Albert Seevers			11/6	South Carolina State
Charlotte, N.C.		Albert Seevers	Fort Washington, MD	OL				1:00 p.m. Home	
Anthony Hart	DE	Kevin Simmonds	Tallahassee, FL			9/25	Texas Southern	11/13	Morgan State
Greensboro, N.C.		Greg Spriggs	Upper Marlboro, MD			1:00 p.m. Home		1:00 p.m. Away	
Walter Hauser	DB	Tra Tribble	Fort Washing-			10/2	OPEN	11/20	Delaware State
Winston-Salem, N.C.		WR				10/9	Florida A&M	1:00 p.m. Away	
ZaQorae Brown	OL								
Detroit, Mich.									
Jamie Jackson	WR								
Walkertown, N.C.									
Vontrae Long	SS								

# Three Howard Players Find New Home in NFL

By KEVIN D. STEWART  
Hilltop Staff Writer

After a disappointing NFL draft for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC), several Howard football players signed with NFL clubs as free agents. Quarterback Ted White was one of the players shunned by the NFL draft after some analyst speculated he would be picked as high as the third round.

Ted White is the all-time leading passer for Howard University and the MEAC. The 6-foot-four-inch, 220-pound native of Baton Rouge, La. set school and conference records in passing yardage and career touchdown passes, and finished fourth all-time among division I-AA quarterbacks in career touchdowns. Even with this impressive resume, NFL teams overlooked this potentially explosive quarterback.

When asked about his thoughts and feelings about the draft, White said, "It was a hard thing to go through the draft. I really thought I would be selected, but that is how things go...even if you still get drafted there is only a fifty percent chance that you'll make the team...I think the small school factor scared [the teams] away [from me] due to the competition level we were playing in."

White was able to sign with the Kansas City Chiefs. He is glad to be with the Chiefs and feels that he will be able to get a chance to play.

"I'm with a team that I'd wanted to be with. I have a great chance of playing and a great chance of making the team."

- Ted White

great chance of playing and a great chance of making the team," said White.

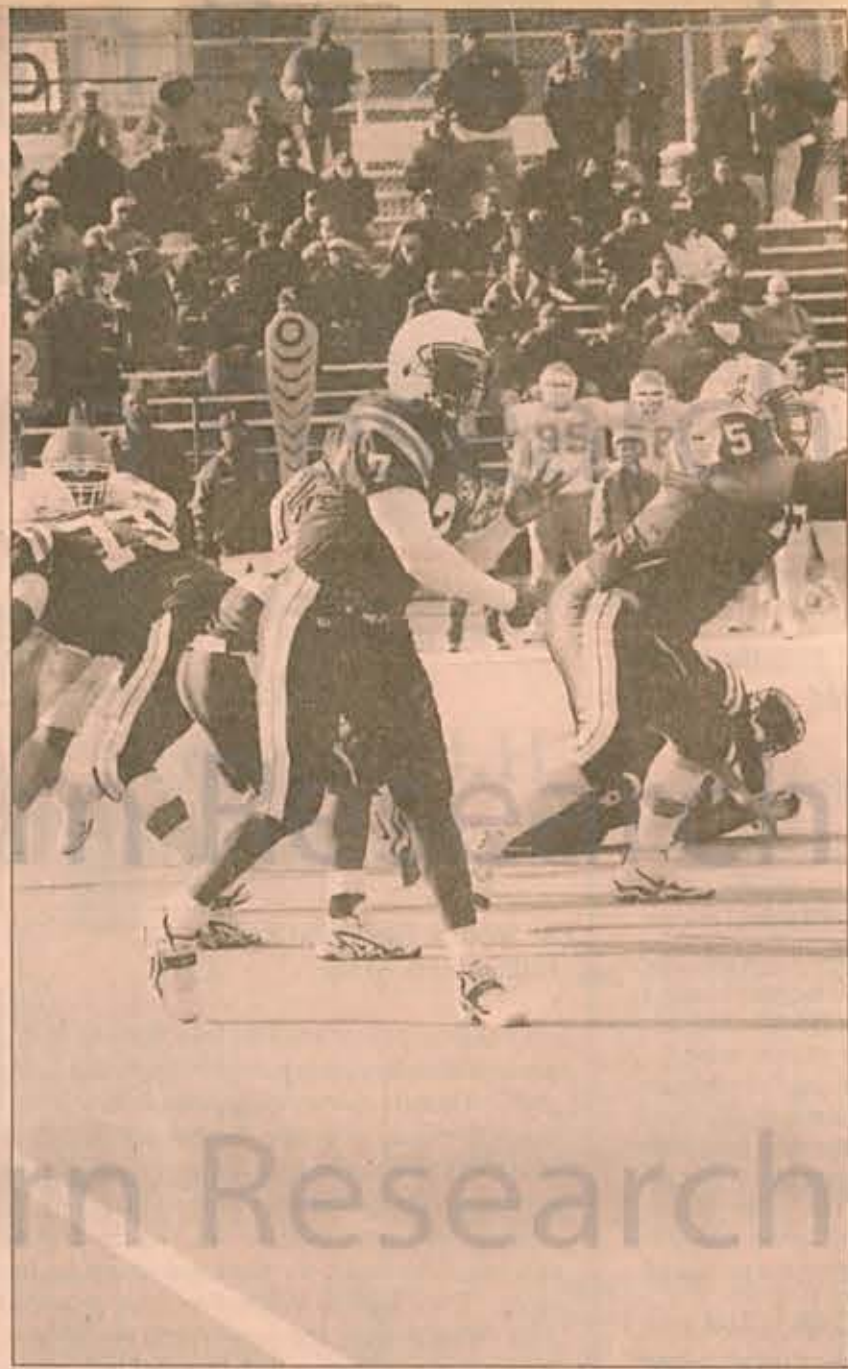
The Chiefs recently signed veteran quarterback Warren Moon during the off-season. White feels this would be a great opportunity for him to learn from one of the NFL's greatest quarterbacks.

White enters the NFL with two other Howard players shunned by the NFL draft. Defensive lineman Marques Douglas signed with the Baltimore Ravens. The 6-foot-2-inch, 260-pound native of Greensboro, N.C. is the all-time leader in quarterback sacks and a three-time all-MEAC selection. Douglas led the team in tackles for three consecutive years and ranks third among all MEAC players in career sacks. He was named to the Sheridan Broadcasting Network Black College All-American team this past season.

Former cornerback Chris Rogers signed with this year's NFC divisional playoff team, the Minnesota Vikings. Rogers, a 5'10", 180-pound native of Largo, Md., was a four-year starter and a 1998 all-MEAC selection. He was one of the most reliable and consistent players in school history during his time at Howard. Rogers never missed a game and only allowed six touchdowns during his college career.

White wishes his former teammates luck with their new teams and only wishes that everyone on the team could have been drafted. White credits his coaches at Howard and their pro-style offense for preparing him for the NFL's intense level of play. He is determined to succeed at the professional level.

"I can't worry about anything that is out of my hands. I just have to go out there and prove myself again, and I don't have a problem doing that," White stated.



Ted White is going to the Kansas City Chiefs this year.

## Commentary

# In One Word, the NBA Season was Awkward!



Kimothy K. Brown

This NBA season has proved to be mediocre at best. Michael Jordan is gone, causing the once mighty Chicago Bulls to resemble their cheerleaders, "The Lovabulls." Many basketball fans and Chicago natives here at Howard University obviously have reasons to hold their heads down. Their once NBA-ruling professional basketball team is now the cellar dwellers in the Eastern Conference. Even the perennial losers, the Philadelphia 76ers, are on their way to the playoffs. The world must really be ending!

Several things surprised me this season. As mentioned before, the 76ers. Much to their credit, this young team has been able to win games. Currently the team is 27-21 while holding the sixth spot in the East. Led by former Georgetown standout Allen Iverson, the Sixers will make noise in the postseason. The city of Philadelphia should really be proud of this team's performance this season, much to the credit of head coach Larry Brown. He turned the Indiana Pacers around, so transforming this once-perennial losing team to contenders. After all, at least one professional team in Philadelphia has to be a winner.

Another one of my favorite teams was the Orlando Magic. Darrell Armstrong, the most consistent player on the team, should win the Sixth Man Award. Armstrong basically carried the team on his back during the "absence" of Anfernee "Penny" Hardaway. To make a long story short, Penny sucked this year. He was not the same player he was early on in his career. Because of that, Armstrong emerged as the best player on the team. In addition, head coach Chuck Daly worked his magic again. He used the roster of players the best to their abilities.

Moving on to the Western Conference, I cannot help but talk about the under-achieving Los Angeles Lakers. What is wrong with this team? They were on a roll when Dennis Rodman was a member. Since then, it seems as if L.A. has lacked confidence while losing games. Shaquille O'Neal is still at the top of the scoring list, but I do not think Los Angeles will go very far in the playoffs. At this moment, the Lakers will face the Houston Rockets as the fourth seed in the West. If they do not shape up, Houston will run all over the Lakers.

The San Antonio Spurs are another team ready to play. Aside from dominating the Western Conference front-running Utah Jazz, the Spurs have a powerful frontcourt of David Robinson and Tim Duncan. Will 1999 finally be the year San Antonio reaches the NBA Finals? It could be, especially if the usual favorites slip.

Seattle's bad season was a surprise to most people. However, I was not the least bit surprised. Although George Karl failed to lead the team past the first round on several occasions, at least they reached the playoffs. This year, Seattle is not even in the eighth spot. That slot will be occupied by the Sacramento Kings. The young Kings will make a little noise in the playoffs. Currently, they will face Utah. Sacramento may just stretch the Jazz to five games in the opener.

I can go on and on about the NBA, but that can take up the entire page.

The Howard University Sports Information office is looking for work study students or volunteers to work in the office this summer and fall. Prospective students must have an interest in pursuing a career in sports journalism, sports public relations or sports marketing and have a willingness to work under deadline pressures. The opportunity will provide an excellent chance for career advancement in the field. For more information, please call Edward Hill, Jr. at (202) 806-7188 or 7184.



# GRADUATION 1999

## It's Nation Time For All Time!

*Student Activist, Jonathan Hutto Graduates After Four Years of Service to HU*

By APRILL O. TURNER  
Hilltop Staff Writer

It is not a normal day at Howard University if Jonathan Hutto isn't on the yard passing out fliers or spreading news to the student body through his mighty bullhorn. But on this day, the graduating political science major from Atlanta, Ga., will trade in his bullhorn, moving on to bigger and better things.

Hutto was active on Howard's campus since the first day he arrived. As a freshman in Drew Hall, he was elected dormitory president. During his sophomore year, Hutto returned to the all-male dorm to serve as a third-floor resident assistant.

Also in his second year, Hutto was a representative in the Undergraduate Student Assembly, and Volunteer Coordinator for HUSA spearheading the Operation Vote Bison effort, registering thousands of Howard students and DC residents to vote and he ran successfully for the Advisory Neighborhood Commission. That same year he was a key figure in the Fine Arts protest in front of the Administration Building and instrumental in lifting the band of student activist David Mohammed from campus. Later that year, Hutto set out on a path that would eventually lead to a successful HUSA presidential campaign under the now famous theme "Nation Time."

"Nation Time" proved to be a success, trailblazing "interactive student government", by actually bringing student government to students' doorsteps. He took his next plunge into Howard politics running for undergraduate trustee. Under Hutto's

tenure as trustee he focused on important policy issues concerning students, such as; the student activity fee, tuition increases, the Proposed Core Bylaws, and he is currently working with Student Code of Conduct.

Also this year, Hutto was a major proponent of granting honorary degrees to Kwame Ture and James Farmer. The two will be honored today.

Professor of Education, Dr. Mary Hoover serves as a mentor to Hutto and is proud of the work that he has done with Kwame Ture.

"I am very proud of Jonathan and his many accomplishments, I think he has great leadership abilities" said Hoover. "He is truly devoted to Howard, the best example is through his work with Kwame Ture — through bringing him to campus last year and his help in getting the honorary degree for him. This work is important because Kwame Ture represents the grass roots aspect of Howard which most people ignore."

Graduate Trustee, Randy Short has built a close work relationship with Hutto throughout the year working on with the Board of Trustees.

"It has been a great experience working with John and watching him willpower in the boardroom, nothing complimentary said about Hutto is hype... its gospel!" said Short. "I would consider ours the finest working relationship I've ever had. Jonathan has the level of commitment that Jesse Jackson could aspire to."

Community activist Lawrence Guyot, himself a symbol of political action, has worked with Hutto on many community service projects. He expressed his sentiments on the job performance of Hutto.

"Jonathan Hutto has all of the positive attributes of leadership," said Guyot. "He is pre-thinking, and not as spontaneous as he seems, and he is never politically at a loss for direction and scope."

Perhaps one of Hutto's most effective programs during his HUSA term was interactive student government. He was able to hold "Speak Ya' Mind Fridays," dorm sweeps, weekly panel discussions and HUSA newsletters. Also, Hutto aided in sending over 500 Howard University women to the Million Woman March in Philadelphia and marching over 100 Howard students to the "Free DC Rally."

As a resident assistant in Drew Hall, many former residents gave their thoughts about the other side of Hutto, the man away from the daily rigors of running student government.

HUSA Vice President-Elect, Q. Terah Jackson III, described Hutto as an inspiration and true student leader, saying that the entire student body will miss him.

"He [Hutto] showed me what Drew Hall could do," said Jackson. "People from any part of the campus can do something incredible."

Former undergraduate trustee candidate, Frank B. Turner, characterized Hutto's overall personality, charisma and political savvy.

"There's a lot of potential at Howard University, and a lot of sparks," said Turner. "Nation Time was the spark that caught fire. He made people want to do stuff at Howard."

Turner added that Hutto not only brought about policy, but unity. According to Turner, Hutto has been the most successful in bringing unity and a sense of nationalism.

Nik Eames, a close friend and political

confidant of Hutto, said he is the greatest student leader in the 1990's. Hutto supported Eames in his unsuccessful bid for a City Council seat in Ward 1.

"He really means well to our people. He cares about our people, and he is a freedom fighter for our people," said Eames.

As for Hutto himself, his work is not done. He will take some time off and then attend graduate school, pursuing a degree in African Studies.

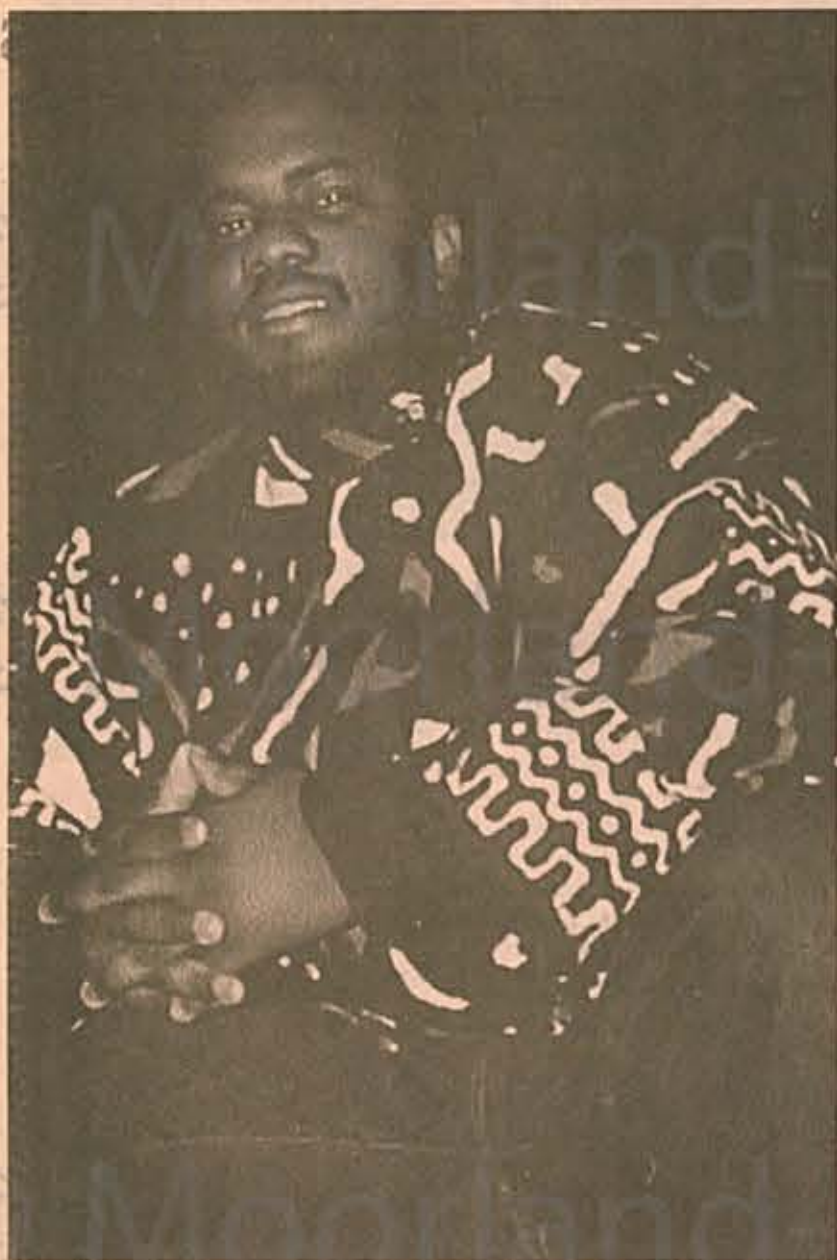
"My education here at Howard is a product of the peoples, struggle for liberation therefore I have dedicated my life to fighting for that day when all of Gods children can breathe free," said Hutto. "Free of hunger, free of oppression, free of disease, and free to live life to the fullest."

Hutto believes it is time for future student government leaders to take action and step forward to make change. He left one last word for the Howard community.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone, the students, faculty and the D.C. community for all of the love, help and support that they have given me during my tenure at Howard. I want to take this opportunity to challenge the student body, especially the leadership, to continue to struggle and fight until all of God's children can breathe free. One student at a time, one day at a time, it's Nation Time, for all time," said Hutto.

For Hutto, "Nation Time" is now.

Staff Writer Kimothy K. Brown contributed to this article.



Hilltop Staff/ Eric Hall

Former HUSA President and current Undergraduate Trustee, Jonathan Hutto will be graduating with a degree in political science after four years of student activism and service to HU.

## Looking for Life's Answers: A Graduate's Perspective

By ROCHELL BISHOP  
Hilltop Staff Writer

I was determined to attend college. Although my academic counselor in my predominantly white high school did not see past my skin color to my full potential, I promised myself that I would do everything I could to go to college.

College? This was an unfamiliar institution to my family, who emigrated from Belize, Central America in the 1970s to find a better way of life, one filled with unlimited opportunities. My parents only dreamed of the life they established for me and my

younger sister, who is only a year younger than me. Many times I wonder what my mother and father went through to ensure a rich life for their children, a life filled with love, culture and open doors.

Listening to the stories that my mother would tell about her struggles to cross the U.S. border more than once while pregnant so that her children can be American citizens filled my heart and soul with pride. In my eyes, she was a young girl who saw beyond the turmoil in her life and leaped over tremendous, sometimes unbelievable, obstacles to give us what she never had. She believed that in the United States, her children would have more opportunities.

My mother and father did what they felt was best for me. There are times when I asked myself why? Why did they have to send me away at 17 days old to live with my grandmother in Belize? Why did my sister have to go, too? Why did my father have to leave home for months at a time? And, why did my mom feel a need to leave?

Four years ago, I had just really began to find the answers to my questions. Upon receiving my admittance letter to Howard University, the only school I applied to after my high school journalism advisor told me that it had the best journalism department among all black colleges, my life began to unfold.

I realize that all I had experienced as a child has helped build my character, one that is strong, determined and focused.

It has helped me deal with all the trials and tribulations that were waiting for me at this university. Early on, I began to seek work opportunities. I was fortunate to have met someone who referred me to a position on the Howard Engineer magazine, the student-run publication in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences. I became a staff writer and was quickly promoted to co-editor and then editor-in-chief for two years. This opportunity enabled me to pay for my college career. I

stayed hard at work. Many times my peers would tell me "Rochell, you are over doing it!" Sometimes I agreed with them, but I understood what my mission was here, and I was not going to let anything get in my way, not even my own doubts.

I gained and lost a lot at Howard. However, I learned something from all my experiences. I believe everything that happens in my life, everyone who is placed in my path, everything I choose or choose not to do is for a reason. There is a plan for me. I believe it's a good plan. Yes, bad things have happened throughout my life, but all these things have made me stronger. I'm too strong to stop now.

I remember traveling to New York to visit my father and discussing how we would pay for my first year of school. I did not have a college fund set up, although we all knew that I would be very likely to further my education. My father went away for months at a time because he had to support his family. When he was home, he got up four o'clock every morning, seven days a week, to ride race horses and prepare for afternoon races. To this very day I believe he is the hardest working man I know. To think that at one time I could not understand why my dad couldn't make it to some birthdays and other holidays, shows me how much I've matured as an individual now that I realize how hard he worked for his



Hilltop Staff/ Yusef Alexandrine

Rochell A. Bishop is a Howard University alumna (Class of 1999). A journalism major, Bishop served as the managing editor of The Hilltop during the 1998-99 school year.

family.

Now, mainly through my college experience, I understand what responsibility means. Although I got an early start in high school—working three jobs after school, and at one period in time, living alone—it was not until I entered this university's doors that I began to appreciate the grown-up responsibilities I had taken on in high school.

I asked my father to help pay for the first year of college. I told him that if he helped me with this start, I would find a way to continue my education, financially independent.

Well, I'm proud to say that I did it! I did it! I graduated! I made my parents proud!

I made my entire family proud! And most of all, I made my cousin Anthony, the closest person to me who would have done it first but could not because he lost his life in a car accident in his first semester at Seton Hall University, proud!

My education and my dedication to work were my two main priorities. I treated both with the same amount of significance. I know that without the support from my family, friends and colleagues, I would not have been

able to get this far.

I honor my parents for trying their best to see that I am and will continue to be an important, contributing individual to our society. Thank you Mr. Findley G. Bishop for all you have given me. Thank you for allowing me to be me. You always said "If you make your bed hard, you lie in it!" Well dad, I've accumulated a lot of cushion and it's been achieved with your support. Thank you for believing in me.

Mrs. Marilyn Bishop-Gentle we are two of a kind, whether you believe it or not. Thank you for passing on your strength to me. I admire your fiery character, love you.

My sister, Rozlyn, you are such a strong woman; I know we get it from mom. All my life I've truly felt, despite what you may say sometimes, that you look up to your older sister. You have always expected the best out of me. I thank you, too, for believing in me and telling me like it is when you feel it is necessary. Your advice is truly appreciated. I love the little angel you brought into this world. We have so many plans for her and the one you carry now.

Hey, Merv! Thank you for all the

support and love you have given me. You always tried to understand where I was coming from. When you entered our lives I realized that no one can take someone else's place, but there can always be a nice addition to the family.

My best-sister friend Porchia: you have helped me through some tremendous times. I will never forget the role you played in my life. You were my big sister. Thanks for everything. Thanks to my best friend LasShane, you've been a great advisor. I love you much.

Aunt J and Uncle Les: thanks for your support. I made it! Now, it's Lester's and Lizzy's turn.

I would not leave this university without thanking my second family in the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences. Dean Johnson (my No. 1 dean) thank you for all your support and belief in me. Ms. Georgia McGill, you are a blessing. Thank you for taking me under your wing and guiding me through all four years. I love you!

To all my close friends and colleagues who have had a strong impact on my life, I thank you: Yusef Alexandrine (You brought so much

to my life), Marwan Porter (You are the most sincere person I've ever met), Karen Richardson (Hey Mrs. G, you go, I'm so proud of you, thanks for all those late nights, chicken), Kamal Flucker (We made it, together!), Aaron Paist (I love your ambition), Godwell Khosa (my star reporter, thanks for being a good friend) Byron Ezell (You're the best, thanks for all your help and advice). I'll never forget the love and support I received from Valisha Marshall, Natalie Y. Moore and Erin McKinney. Thank you Hilltop and Howard Engineer staff 1998-99. Without you all my work efforts would not have been fully achieved.

Thanks to my college dad Dr. Kag-gwa. We need more professors like you. I appreciate all the professional and personal advice you have given me. I will miss you so much! You helped to prepare me for what I'm about to receive.

There is no stopping me!

Rochell A. Bishop is a Howard University alumna (Class of 1999). A journalism major, Bishop served as the managing editor of The Hilltop during the 1998-99 school year.



**BandHorns Up!****Howard University Band Plans Exciting Season**

By Kevin D. Stewart  
Hilltop Staff Writer

Hold on to your seats ladies and gentlemen, for the 1999 edition of the Howard University Showtime Marching Band. It's guaranteed to please and tease your ears while keeping your feet tapping and head nodding to the soulful sound that can only be describe as the exciting Showtime band.

Howard's Showtime band employs the high stepping marching style of many Historically Black Colleges and Universities. What separates them from the rest is something that all great performers use when it is showtime, the element of surprise, thus the name, Howard University Showtime Marching Band.

The Showtime band is led by John Newson, the Director of Bands for Howard University. Newson has been the head director since 1991 but has been affiliated with the band as an associate band director since 1986, when he transferred from Morgan State University. He is head of the largest student organization on campus. Though there are many misconceptions about the band, members of this tight knit group form a family atmosphere in which members encourage and nurture each other in success and failure.

The 1998 edition consisted of 120 instrumentalist and 160 in total with auxiliary units (i.e. flag girls, and Ooh La La's). Newson believes that



Photo Courtesy Marching Band

The Bison Showtime Marching Band plans an all new season of songs and dances for the upcoming football season.

this edition will be bigger and better than year's past.

"We have at least 200 prospective students for next year...Hopefully we will net 40 to 50 new players and bring our total of instrumentalist to 150 and we will have 180 to 190 in total," said Newson.

This year, Howard will have two drum majors. Richard Adison, a

senior computer science major, and Maurice O'Neal, a freshmen music major are the drum majors for 1999. These men will set the tone for how the band will dazzle your audio senses.

Last year's band was able to travel by plane on three separate occasions to different events throughout the nation and entertained thousands of

fans. Though it has been some time that the Showtime band has performed at NFL games, Newson said that they will be performing at three NFL games (Cincinnati Bengals, Washington Redskins, and Philadelphia Eagles). This is sure to provide wide exposure for the program.

Though the program has had its successes, it has to deal with a lack

of funding and scholarship money to recruit the top instrumentalist.

"Students are concerned with being able to get scholarships. They need to know whether the funds will be there for them," said Newson. "We are the lowest funded program of the major schools. We need more funding to attract the freshmen to come and play with the band."

Even with this problem, the Showtime Band continues to astound audiences and entertain the masses.

"I want the Howard community to know that, basically, we want to entertain you during half time of football and basketball games," said Newson.

**A Cheerleader's Work is Never Done**

By Kevin D. Stewart  
Hilltop Staff Writer

No game at Howard is complete without hearing the crowd-pleasing chants of the Bison cheerleaders. This group of individuals provide the crowds with entertainment to keep school spirit going even when the teams are not. Catchy chants such as "Bison to the Front" and "Are You Going to Do It Tonight" get the crowd into an upbeat mood. The team, which is led by Coach Troy Burton, is gearing up for a successful 1999-2000 school year. Since last year's squad contained no seniors, they are returning with a seasoned squad that is primed and pumped for the rigors of cheerleading.

The squad size has increased to nineteen this year, including sixteen ladies and three men. Unlike many sports, which have an off season, cheerleading is a year-round event. Squad members arrive in August for training camp and cheer from then until the end of the basketball season. Then, they receive a three-week break before they must hold tryouts and resume practice. Even during the hot summer months, this dedicated group takes tumbling and follows an intense conditioning schedule to ensure that they remain at top form for the rest of the year.

Members are excited about this year's squad and have numerous



The Howard University Bison cheerleaders.

File Photo

goals they plan to accomplish to make their presence recognized by the Howard community. Shelva Clemons, a junior marketing major from Salem, Va., has been cheerleading for four years. She is this year's team captain and believes this year's squad will be particularly special.

"This year, we are coming with a lot of new ideas in terms of new routines. The previous year, we did something that we normally don't do, which is girl stunting, with girls lifting other girls. This year we have a goal of going to the MEAC (Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference) competition

and winning, which is something that we haven't participated in some time," Clemons said.

Freshman arts administration major Maya Perkins is a member of this year's squad. The Seattle native observed this year's squad will be different from last year's squad.

"Our stunts are going to be bigger, and we are going to add to our repertoire with new dance routines and complicated formations," said Perkins.

Many people are not aware of the time and commitment cheerleaders devote to their sport. They have three organized practices each week in

addition to personal preparation time. Conditioning and weight training also factor into the time they spend preparing each week, and weekends are spent traveling to and from events. Though these individuals spend as much time practicing and performing as other sports on Howard's campus, Howard's cheerleaders perform for little or no financial support toward their education costs.

"We are all here as volunteers," Perkins said. "We don't get scholarships, we aren't paid, yet we all come to practice on time. We do it for the love of cheering. I think this separates us from other sports on cam-

pus."

Julie Ann Reid, a junior marketing major from White Plains, N.Y. and member of the 1999-2000 cheerleading squad, gave an example of the sacrifices one must make as a member of Howard's squad.

"The night before the homecoming game, we had practice until midnight. Usually during that week, cheerleaders don't get to participate in or attend the concert, fashion show, or things that go on at night, because we are practicing," said Reid.

To supply items that are underfunded by the school's budget for cheerleaders, members put on fundraisers. This pays for travel expenses, socks, shoes, bloomers, and other team accessories. These are crucial for the team to look and perform at their best. Student support of these fundraisers is important to their success. The squad wants to let the Howard community know that they need its support to allow them to represent Howard on a quality level. Their fundraising profits will go toward purchasing full gear for the fall.

The squad believes cheerleading should be held in the same regard as other sports on campus. Yes, cheerleading is a sport. Kindel Richardson, a sophomore insurance major from Fort Washington, Md. and co-captain of this year's squad, explained why.

"We get hurt just like the football

and basketball teams do. We have to put in practice hours just like those teams that are considered sports. We are in the weight room. We do everything the other sport teams do, including compete, except we don't get compensated for it," Richardson said.

Richardson also noted the squad shares a problem common to other Howard teams: lack of adequate practice space and facilities.

"For the last couple years, Howard's cheerleaders have not competed at the MEAC competition, and the main reason why is due to the lack of practice space. That is why you would see us practicing outside when it is very cold or here in the alcove [in Burr gymnasium] where the ceilings are very low. This prevents us from practicing flips and stunts that are necessary for us to progress in our training," stated Richardson.

The lack of recognition of cheerleading as a sport is troubling to the squad. They believe this is possibly due to people's lack of knowledge about the rigors and demands of cheerleading. Hopefully, increased coverage of cheerleading competitions by stations such as ESPN will change people's perceptions of the sport.

**Instant Replay**

By J. Weatherly

**INSTANT REPLAY**

1999 NBA POST-SEASON



Hey! Don't get all bent out-of-shape, they come manufactured like this!!

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**hilltop-sports@hotmail.com**



# HEALTH

## Tae-Bo Fever On The Rise

By KRISTY HINDS  
Hilltop Staff Writer

You may have seen him on Oprah, read about him in magazines, heard the buzz in your classes, or at work. Everyone is talking about tae-bo and the word is: results, results, and more results.

Have you wondered who is this new fitness guru wearing the tight spandex workout gear promising results to anyone who can mirror his fancy foot-work, "karate-like" kicks and "Sugar Ray Leonard" jabs? His name is Billy Blanks and he is the new king of the fitness movement.

Characterized as being the "future of fitness" and adored by many celebrities, Billy Blanks's tae-bo is a mixture of boxing punches and mar-

tial arts kicks. Celebrities such as Paula Abdul, Rebecca De Mornay, Sinbad, Carmen Electra, Lela Rochon, Sugar Ray Leonard, and Shaquille O'Neal praise Blanks and his tae-bo.

Sometimes I just don't have the motivation to go running or to exercise, and the tae-bo programs are short," said Natalie Rivera, a junior advertising major.

The tae-bo workout is a two-tape set, the first forty minute tape "Tae-Bo: Instructional;" lays out the movements the viewer needs to successfully master the steps and complete the workout. Now you are ready to move on to "Tae-Bo: Basics", a twenty-seven minute workout (five minutes of warm-up, eighteen minutes of tae-bo, and four minutes of cool down) that is said to get your heart

pumping and body sweating. An additional feature is the "Tae-Bo: 8 minute workout video".

Tae-Bo is affective for all exercise levels, and the punches and kicks can be great sources for relieving tension and stress.

I first heard about tae-bo from girls around campus," said junior marketing major Antonio Michell. "Although I've never seen the video, everyone says it seems like a good way for people to get into or stay in shape."

Wayne F. Major, EdD, is a fitness director and personal trainer at Sport and Health club, a fitness club in the metro area. Major recalls finding out about tae-bo on television advertisements.

"Tae-bo is a great cardiovascular workout which inquires flexibility

and strength exercises into a real workout," said Major.

Although Major has admitted to never trying tae-bo himself he said he would definitely recommend it to anyone, especially to those who cannot make it to the gym on a regular basis.

Tae-bo is currently one of the top selling and most popular exercise videos on the market. This winning combination of martial arts and boxing seems to be a hit among men and women. Until someone creates a new form of fitness, it appears as though Billy Blanks will be leading the country into the millennium healthier, stronger, and toned with his tae-bo.



The new Tae Bo exercise is gaining popularity.

HILLTOP STAFF/ Eric Hall

## Skin Cancer Risk Greatest During Summer Months, Experts Say

By MARIE BAWWIDINSI  
Hilltop Staff Writer

According to the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), getting "too dark" this summer is now the least of your problems. Over the past few years, skin cancer has reached epidemic proportions in this country. Dr. Darrel Rigel, president of the AAD explains the seriousness of the situation. "More than 1 million new cases of skin cancer were diagnosed in 1998," says Rigel. And, as we approach the new millennium with the greenhouse effect creating both longer and hotter summers, it doesn't seem to be getting any better.

Sunburn results when the amount of exposure to the sun or another ultraviolet light source exceeds the

ability of the melanin in the skin to compensate. In other words, the sun literally bakes the layers of your skin, inside out. The people at the most risk are those who are chronically exposed to the sun on a daily basis: construction workers, athletes, sun bathers and most importantly, children.

People of color have the tendency to put themselves at a greater risk because they feel their coloring is a form of protection from the sun's detrimental effects. But the skin's coloring has absolutely nothing to do with it. Derek Ranselle, a 21 year old civil engineering student, describes his experiences with the sun. "I don't stay in the sun much in the summer," says Ranselle. "Because I'm light skinned I usually burn pretty quickly, and my skin gets really red, dry, and tight." Whereas the sun-

burn of a light skinned person may occur in fifteen minutes of noonday exposure, a darker skinned person may tolerate the same exposure for many hours.

Regardless of the skin color, the effect of the condition of the skin is still the same - it becomes damaged. Even though it may take a longer period of time to occur for people of darker complexions, the consequences of overexposure to the sun are extremely significant. The most common form of skin cancer, basal cell carcinoma, accounts for eighty percent of all reported cases. Although early treatment is successful, most untreated cases cause tissue damage leading to severe disfigurement of the skin.

Arthur Sober, MD comments on the overall sensitivity of the skin. "It [the skin] has a memory, keep-

ing track of all the sun damage that's accumulated over the years." Sober, associate chief of dermatology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, advises that special protection should begin as soon as there is a continuous amount of exposure to the sun, which occurs at around six months of age.

Because the primary summer concern of the average person of color is to maintain, or alter [in some cases] their color status, a few skin safety tips can assist in achieving those goals. •Avoid peak sunlight hours, 10 AM to 4 PM, when the sun's rays are strongest.

•Apply sunscreen with an SPF (Sun Protection Factor) of at least 15, although a higher factor is more appropriate for more extensive expo-

sure. Reapplication should occur after two hours.

•Wear protective clothing which covers the arms and the legs if expecting to be in the sun for long periods of time. Also, wear a wide brimmed hat, that is at least four inches, to protect the sensitive skin of the face.

•Be sure to check the skin for new growths, moles, marks, etc. and report any extraordinary findings to a health care professional.

What happens if you find yourself allergic to sunscreen and sunblock? Senior nursing major LaShawn Howell finds herself facing that problem. "I'm allergic to sunscreen but I can wear some sunblock," says Howell. But there are some common sense solutions to a problem like this. "I try not to be in the sun too long but I always make sure that I

wear a hat. Even though I'm brown skinned, I can still burn really badly.

"It is important for people of color to have and maintain an active interest in the protection of their health, which includes the protection of their skin. Just like any other part of the body, the skin must be monitored and screened on a regular basis. No longer can misconception and miseducation make unknown statistics of those who are commonly underrepresented in the affected population.

No matter what your skin color, remember that the sun is unforgiving of us all. Keep yourself safe and protected this summer.

*May is has been declared Melanoma/ Skin Cancer Detection Month by the American Academy of Dermatology.*

## Americans Long for Better Body Images, Doctors Say

By MARIE BAWWIDINSI  
Hilltop Staff Writer

The girl with the low cut halter top and the snug fitting capris...the guy with the baggy fitting fatigues and the sleeveless white undershirt - both trim, fit, and without an ounce of fat or remorse. Remorse for what you ask? The way that they make you feel about your own body.

Distorted body image is a problem that affects both the women and the men of this country. It doesn't matter if you are tall or short, round or unashamedly thin. How you see yourself and, more importantly, how you think others see you, says a lot about your mental and physical health. Dr. Wayne Majors, fitness director of the Washington Hilton Sport and Health Club and specialist in mind and body wellness programming, states that "an unhealthy mind leads to an unhealthy body, thus the negative self-perception.

"There are many reasons behind a negative body image. To no one's surprise, the reasons behind a negative body image are largely based in gender. For women, the main reason is the message of the American culture: THIN IS IN ! From Billy Blanks' success with the Tae-Bo workout to the California Juice diet;

from Weight Watchers and Jenny Craig commercials to fat-free snack food, Americans are inundated with the need to be thin on a daily basis. Magazines, commercials, and the newest runway designs combine to make women feel the pressure of society to become slimmingly svelte. This is especially a problem for today's younger women, whose negative body images are lead them increasingly to such unhealthy practices as eating disorders, namely anorexia and bulimia nervosa.

For men, the reason is far more primitive: the bigger that they are, the more attention that they get, the more success that they find. Though sometimes spurring the use of anabolic steroids, most men have very minor problems with their self-perception. A prime example is Jolyon Rose, a senior nursing major. "I exercise and try to eat right. But I usually feel pretty good anyway," says Rose. Not everyone is as lucky to share the same feelings.

But how can you go about improving a negative body image? According to the Mayo Clinic, Americans, on a whole, long for better bodies. But the American lifestyle, which consists of eating on the run and playing couch commando with the remote control, does not promote for optimal "fat burning". Exercise and a sensible diet are always a start to

remodeling unwanted body features. But there is more to positive body image than just the physical. Some individuals with negative body images use high-risk behaviors such as smoking and drinking to better their perception of themselves. Even worse, their helplessness may lead to psychiatric problems, that may culminate in suicide. Again, Dr. Wayne Majors sheds light on such a dark subject. "People must learn to nurture themselves," says Majors, "because there is no way in the world that a person can think positively of themselves without taking care of themselves both mentally and physically."

So what can be done? "The first step is to stop bad mouthing yourself," says Dr. Donald E. McAlpine, head of the Mayo Clinic's eating disorder program. "Perceptual distortion is common. The vast majority of people will overestimate their size." The main things to do is concentrate on the positive. Another helpful tip is to seek supportive relationships that allow you to associate with people who have accepted their own bodies, and their own selves. Realize that you, and your body can only be who you are... no one else. Finally, have some confidence in yourself - a positive self-perception comes from within.

## IN MEMORY OF KWAME TURE (A.K.A. STOKELY CARMICHAEL)

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE HOWARD UNIVERSITY  
AWARDING KWAME TURE  
AN HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE

ADMISSION  
FREE FOR  
THE  
PEOPLE!



ADMISSION  
FREE FOR  
THE  
PEOPLE!

## Canned Fruit Salad Recipe

PREPARATION TIME: 15 minutes  
SERVING : 6  
CALORIES: 80  
PROTEIN: 0 grams  
CARBOHYDRATES: 19 grams  
FAT: 0 grams

### INGREDIENTS

1 16 ounce can fruit cocktail in natural juice  
1 20 ounce can chunk pineapple in natural juice  
1 apple  
1 banana

### PREPARATION

1. Mix undrained fruit cocktail and drained pineapple together into a bowl.  
2. Cut apple and banana into bite-size pieces.  
3. Mix apple and banana into canned fruit. Enjoy!!

SATURDAY, MAY 8

at NEW BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

9th and S Streets, NW

7-9 p.m.

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# HOTSpots

A GUIDE TO DC EATERIES, CLUBS, ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT



Photo by Eric Hall

## TASTE

**GEORGIA BROWN'S**  
950 K Street NW.  
202.393.4499

BY JENNIFER ANDERSON  
Hilltop Staff Writer

IF YOU'RE LIKE ANY OTHER COLLEGE STUDENT AROUND THIS time, a decent restaurant meal is something you've been craving for a minute. Yet with declining funds being a chronic virus in these parts, you've settled many a night for an entree a la Mickey D's.

Well, crave no longer, with the swarm of relatives that have descended upon DC for many this weekend, Georgia Brown's Restaurant is a place where you can go to get your expensive eat on.

The menu at Georgia Brown's screams diversity. The South Carolina Low Country cuisine, is a culmination

of the diverse cooking traditions of the West Africans, the French Huguenots and the Sephardic Jews that came to the area in the seventeenth century. Although the menu is based on southern cuisine, its not unusual to find braised brisket and escovitch vegetables on the menu next to their southern fried chicken and collard greens.

The wood and earth-toned color scheme of Brown's is inviting and warm. Beautiful plants are found all around the lightly dimmed place. The well stocked bar lays mysteriously to the side, adding to the sophisticated atmosphere. If asked to define the interior layout by using

a term used from the fashion industry, "haute couture" would be the first to come to mind.

The menu is extensive, with six appetizers, four salads, fourteen entrees, and four desserts. While seasoning is restrained at times, the food is beautifully presented while the friendly and attentive waiting staff adds a plus to its presentation.

The cornmeal crusted fried catfish fingers are fried to a beautiful golden crisp. However due to its lack of seasoning it tends to depend too much on the flavorful mango-mustard tartar sauce and southern coleslaw that accompanies the dish for taste.

The southern fried chicken salad with garden patch greens has Bermuda onions, sliced tomatoes, horseradish ranch dressing with a clemson bleu dressing is a fine choice as is the House salad. The grilled jumbo shrimp salad is a disappointment, due to the overcooked shrimp.

Main-course choices are plentiful. Their Southern fried Chicken on a bed of Red Bliss mashed potatoes, pan gravy and is a good meat dish. The accompanying collard greens are a tad on the oily-side, yet doesn't take away from this popular dish.

Seafood includes grilled fillet of yellowfin tuna served with seasonal vegetables, long grained rice and topped with pineapple-mango conserve and pineapple butter sauce. The barbecued fillet of salmon missed the mark with its "Memphis" sauce, yet the maple whipped yams were good.

Vegetarians can also get a taste with the sautéed black-eyed pea cakes served with escovitch vegetables and red-rice timbale. The vegetarian sampler includes mock "chicken" croquettes, Carolina red rice and vegetarian collard greens.

The desserts are spectacular, especially the sweet potato cheesecake with its pecan crust and vanilla ice cream. The homemade peach cobbler which is accompanied by vanilla ice cream is also very good. Their selections of sorbet are also exciting.

The prices are more parent than student-friendly. Appetizers and salads are around \$10 while entrees range from \$16 to \$20. Reservations are strongly suggested. For graduation weekend, dinner will begin at 3:00 PM instead of its usual 5:30.

## FLAVOR Spots

Awaken Those Buds By  
Checking Out These Eateries

### ASIAN CONFUCIUS

#### CAFE

1721 WISCONSIN AVE.,  
NW  
202.342.3200

#### SALA THAI

2016 P Street, NW.  
202.872.1144

#### YOSAKU JAPANESE RESTAURANT

4712 Wisconsin Ave. NW.  
202.363.4453

**HUNAN CHINATOWN**  
624 H STREET, NW.  
202.783.5858

### INDIAN

#### ADITI

3299 M Street NW.  
202.625.6825

#### HAANDI

1222 W. Broad St., NW.  
703.533.3501

### INDIE

#### BET SOUND STAGE

9640 Lottsford Court  
Largo, MD  
301.883.9500

#### CALIFORNIA PIZZA KITCHEN

1720 M St., NW.  
202.463.4200

#### CHEESECAKE FACTORY

5335 Wisconsin Ave., NW.  
202.364.0500

#### HOUSTON'S

1065 Wisconsin Ave. NW.  
202.338.7760

### SOUL FOOD

#### B. SMITHS

Union Station  
Massachusetts Ave. NE.  
202.

#### FLORIDA AVENUE GRILL

1100 Florida Avenue  
202.265.1586

Compiled by Jennifer Anderson

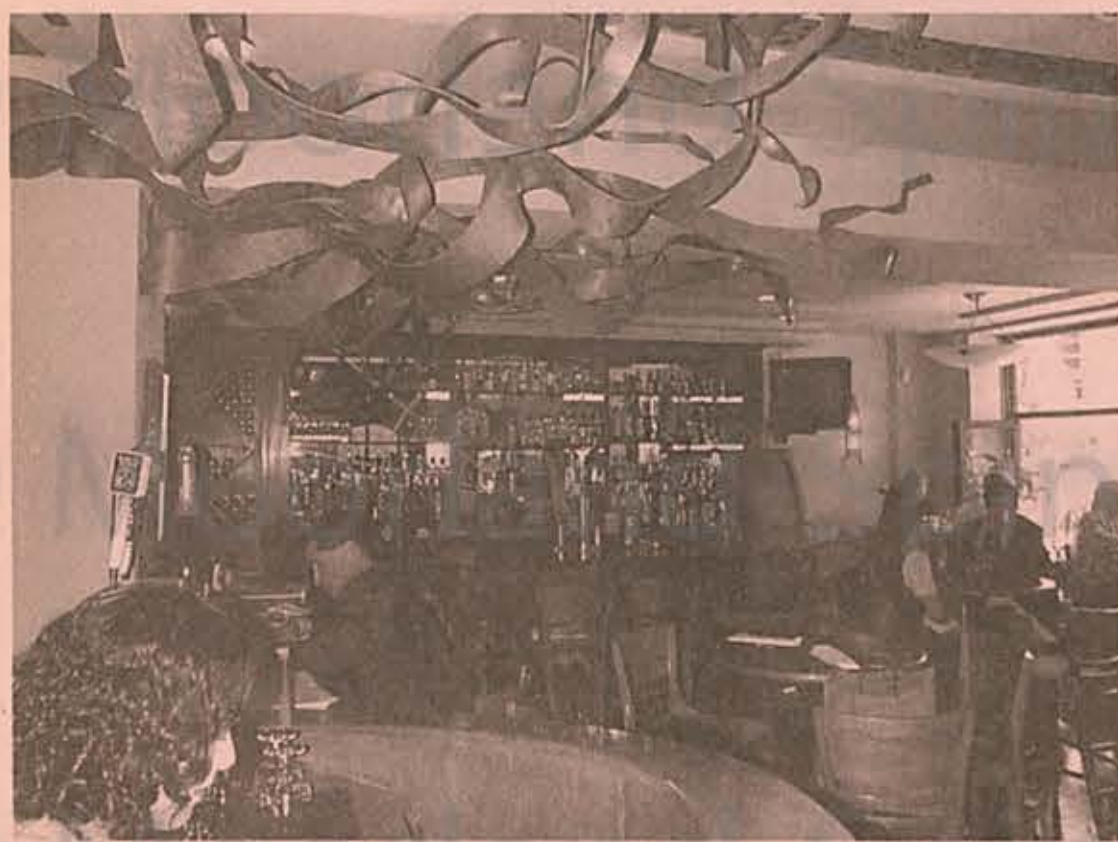


Photo by Eric Hall

Georgia Brown's well stocked bar and creatively mixed drinks is a reason to go all in itself.



# HOTSPOTS



Photo by Eric Hall

Club 2K9, located in NorthWest DC, will be opening on May 14.

## New Club Brings Original Flavor To DC

BY GINGER F. SKINNER  
Hilltop Staffwriter

Imagine a live party packed with 2000 people of every ethnicity, spectacular lights and lasers shooting from every angle, and dancers in cages with hydraulics. Imagine that while waiting in line to enter, you are greeted by a red carpet leading to the entrance and served chilled champagne. Sound like your ordinary D.C. nightclub? This brand-new entertainment complex, 2:K:9, promises to be everything but your ordinary nightclub.

Too many nightclubs boast having the best atmosphere and entertainment but offer the opposite: tight spaces, dim lights, dry entertainment, small dance floors, and familiar faces. The difference in what 2:K:9 has to offer is what owner Derek Owens calls a "multi-ethnic, multi-lifestyle club and concert venue."

Located at 2009 8th Street, NW, 2:K:9 obviously derived its name from its locale, along with its emphasis on the new millennium. This 16, 000-square foot complex houses two mega-sized floors (one for concerts and the other for the deejay), a VIP room, green room, Martini lounge, 45-foot bar with eight bartenders, and a large stage for performances. 2:K:9 is also the first and only nightclub in D.C. to have a deejay spinning songs from the center of the dance floor. 2:K:9 will feature light shows by Jerry Freedman, the designer of the infamous Studio 54 nightclub in New York City.

The owner of 2:K:9, Derek Owens, along with his brothers, will manage and conduct promotions for the nightclub. Owens, who is one-third of the Matrix Brothers production company, hopes to develop the entire block adjacent to and surrounding 2:K:9. He now owns most of the buildings on the block and plans to establish flourishing businesses that will enrich the 8th Street community.

The 31-year-old Owens has been actively involved in the restaurant, entertainment, and nightclub business for about nine years. He has collaborated with many companies and organizations, including BET and the Warner Theater. Owens was the general manager of the popular eatery and night spot, Georgia Cafe, which was owned by his mother. In addition to 2:K:9, Owens is the Chief Executive Officer of the University City Center caterers, which also operates inside the 8th Street complex.

Instead of catering to the usual of the same homogeneous group of party-seekers, Owens wants to attract every culture and appeal to all tastes of entertainment by making every night a new and exciting event. While most nightclubs have a Sunday college night that lures a few area college crowds, 2:K:9 will have a Sunday international college night, attracting students from Howard and U.D.C. as well as those from George Mason and Georgetown.

2:K:9 events will feature a colorful variety of artists including The Roots, Eminem, Charli Baltimore, and Ricky Martin. "2:K:9 will have stuff people in D.C. have never seen, outrageous, diverse, cosmopolitan parties," said marketing entertainment consultant for 2:K:9, Gloria Nauden. Nauden anticipates a thrilling grand opening party on Friday, May 14, featuring matrix f/x, snow machines, acid jazz, and trip hop. Guest artists at the event will be Eric Benet and Olu, an upcoming artist with an organic flavor.

Nauden proposes to collaborate with Howard in promoting large-scale events. "We hope to be the premiere venue of Howard's Homecoming events," said Nauden. Nauden explains that "size really does matter" in terms of whether people will frequent a night spot. 2:K:9's huge rooms and spacious dance floors give it an impressive advantage over most D.C. nightclubs. With a capacity of 2000 people, 2:K:9 can hold 1200 people upstairs and 800 downstairs.

Nauden predicts that 2:K:9 will present major competition for popular local night club, The 9:30 Club. The 9:30 Club, which regularly packs masses of party-goers and concert-lovers into its frame, is a regular night spot for a diverse crowd of college students and local residents. Owens welcomes competition from other clubs, including those on the bustling U Street corridor. In fact, he is certain that 2:K:9 will contribute to the growth of what he refers to as "University City."

"I think it's great. The more the merrier. The competition is going to draw more people to the area," Owens said.

## DIRECT CoNNECTION

It's graduation weekend and DC traffic is congested with all types of drivers. For those who don't want to deal with their own wheels this weekend, here is a list of area taxi services you might want to try:

Ratings:  
\*\*\*\*\*- Excellent Service      \*\*\*\*- VERY GOOD  
\*\*\*-GOOD      \*\*-FAIR  
\*- Waste of Time (Terrible)

### RED TOP CAB

202.328.3333

\*\*\*\*\*

Without question, the best taxi service in the DC-metro area. Red Top has courteous, efficient service. With a decent waiting time (10-15 minutes), this service will get you to your destination in a timely and inexpensive fashion.

### TAXI TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

202.398.0500

\*\*\*\*

Rather than calling all of the cab services in the area, this service does all the work for you. Their dispatch contacts 13 local cab companies and usually calls you back within ten minutes. Waiting time is usually 20 minutes.

### YELLOW CAB

202.544.1212

\*\*

A last resort service. Call this service if you're in a hurry. While operator service is decent, expect a 30 minute wait.

### DIAMOND CAB D.C.

202.387.6200

\*

Like trying to get water from a rock, getting a cab through this service is a hassle no one deserves. Along with the 40-minute or more wait, expect to receive an earful of attitude from one of their courteous operators. \*Note to all out-of-towners: when using this service, make sure to read and understand the zone fare guide, because some of this service's professional drivers will overcharge if they sense you're not from the area.

## FLICK SpOtS

Never Miss The Latest Movies By Checking Out This Weekly Listing Of Times

### AMC UNION STATION 9

50 Massachusetts Ave. NE

703. 998.4262

#### Pushing Tin

1:55, 5:45, 8:30

#### Idle Hands

1:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:10

#### Analyze This

1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 9:40, 12:10

#### Entrapment

2:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15, 10:25

#### Lost And Found

2:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:25

#### Life

1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50, 12:20

#### Foolish

10:25

#### The MATRIX

1:30, 4:50, 7:20

### CINEPLEX ODEON DUPONT CIRCLE

1350 19TH STREET NW

202.333.FILM

#### Go

Smoking Barrels  
1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

#### Lock, Stock and Two

2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50

#### Central Station

2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

#### Open Your Eyes

1:30, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30

DANCE SPOTS	BLUES ALLEY	GARDEN TERRACE LOUNGE	HIP HOP/ R&B	REPUBLIC GARDENS	SPY CLUB
Jazz	1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW 202.337.4141	J.W. Marriott Hotel, 14th and Pennsylvania Ave. NW. 202.393.2000	DC LIVE 932 F ST. NW. 202.347.7200	1335 U St. NW. 202.232.2710	805 15th St. NW. 202.289.1779
BAR NUN	FELIX 2406 18th street. NW. 202.483.3549			THE BANK 915 F St. NW. 202.737.3250	
1326 U Street. NW. 202.332.0533					



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On Behalf of A Chandleron Productions, remember, we are Bison for our lifetime. We made it this far, and with each other, we will continue to lead the world. Let's stay in touch, and take this celebration as a positive acknowledgement of our struggle for knowledge and commitment at Howard. Congratulations! Graduates of 99 and entrants of 95. Much love and you will definitely be missed. Oh! Thanks for supporting my first production. Keep in touch.  
Arrelle D. Anderson, Proud Alumnae



